THE CONFEDERATE.

A. M. GORMAN & CO., Proprietors.

TERMS:

DAILY EDITION, for 6 months.....$12
" " 3 " 7
" " 1 " 3
TRI-WEEKLY, for 6 months. 7
" " 3 " 4
WEEKLY EDITION, for 6 months..... 5

No suscriptions will be received on any other terms than the above, nor for a longer or shorter period.

The Speech of Mr. Stephens.

The appearance of Mr. Vice President Stephens before the Legislature of Georgia, in his late speech, has given much regret to the true friends of the Confederacy, and equal rejoicing to its enemies. It will be republished with distinguished *eclat*, by the Yankee presses; and if it retards in any degree the success of the cause, it will not be the first effort of Mr. Stephens' which has produced a similar effect. His enthusiastic erection of our Government on the corner stone of slavery, in his speech early in the war, more candid than wise, caught an echo in every abolition journal of Europe; and Mr. Lamar will tell the Vice President, that that untimely utterance clogged the efforts of our friends, and furnished the ammunition of our foes. It is not the less regretted that this arsenal has been again opened with a like distribution.

Even Mr. Holden and North Carolina agitators, have found amid the flood of popular disapprobation, a "resting spot of dry land," in this speech of Mr. Stephens.

See how affectionately in his own and Mr. Holden's behalf, the *Progress* HUGS Mr. Stephens. Quite an accidental God-send to the North Carolina agitators, is this effusion of discontent, ill founded in disapproval as ill applied. Mr. Stephens will soon "know North Carolina politics," and "the position of public men," by whom he is used.

For use him they will; although they know well the difference between them and him; although they know well that every organ of Mr. Stephens in Georgia repudiates their affiliation: yet they will clamber on to him if they can, and Mr. Stephens will have the satisfaction to link his future with Mr. Holden and the present contest for Governor in North Carolina.

The use that Mr. Holden is making of Mr. Stephens, induces us to notice his speech, which we should otherwise, because of our long cherished respect for the author, have preferred to omit.

The points of the speech are made upon the late acts of Congress—the currency, the military, and the act suspending the privilege of the *habeas corpus*.

Mr. Holden says through the *Progress*, that he "stands upon the same platform as Vice President Stephens"—that "they occupy the identical ground," and that "there is not a shadow of difference."

"We happen to know that Mr. Holden stands on the same platform that Governor Brown and Vice President Stephens does, and if he be a traitor, so are they. He opposes reconstruction or submission, and insists on a vigorous prosecution of the war while the Confederate and State governments shall do all they can to bring the struggle to an honorable termination by negotiation.—The Conservatives of Georgia and North Carolina occupy the same identical ground, and as between Mr. Holden, Governor Brown and Vice President Stephens there is not the shadow of difference. —*Progress*.

Thus not only do Mr. Holden and the *Progress* "occupy the same identical ground" of which there is not a shadow of difference, but the conservatives of Georgia and North Carolina.

Let us see: The *Progress* of the 6th inst., says of the "Tithe Law"—"Repeal the Tithe Law * * There is more or less waste all over the State. We are in favor of its immediate repeal." Mr. Holden has always been opposed to the "Tithe Law."

What does Mr. Stephens say?

"At present we have subsistence sufficient for the year, if it is taken care of and managed with economy. Upon a moderate estimate, one within reasonable bounds, the tithes of wheat and corn for last year were not less, in the States east of the Mississippi, than eighteen millions of bushels. This would bread an army of five hundred thousand men and one hundred thousand horses for twelve months, and leave a margin for waste or loss. This we have without levying or impressing a bushel or pound. The tithe for meat for the last year will supply the army for six months."

Thus does Mr. Stephens give his sanction to the value of this law—a law which saves the poor men from taxation, and supplies, as Mr. Stephens shows, an abundance in the very articles themselves of food and forage, enough for our army, with all allowance for waste. While Mr. Holden and the *Progress* demand the immediate repeal of this valuable law! And yet these political Cœlebs in search of some companion, hug Mr. Stephens as one between whom and themselves there is "no shadow of difference."

Thus at the very outset, these loving friends diverge in their mutual directions as far as the points of the compass will admit.

On the Currency, Tax and Funding Act, every one knows how bitterly these measures have been assailed by Mr. Holden and the *Progress*. Terms of abuse only to be found in their vocabulary, have been lavished upon them. What does Mr. Stephens say of them: "I simply say, in my judgment they are neither proper, wise or just. Whether in the midst of conflicting views in such diversity of opinion and interests, anything better could not be obtained, I know not—perhaps not."

Thus Mr. Stephens limits himself to ordinary disapproval, candidly confessing he had nothing better to offer.

But why need we expose these glaring inconsistencies? Why "show up" the unadulterated intrusion of this attempt by Mr. Holden to bolster his bad cause, by purloining the garments of Mr. Stephens?

WEEKLY CONFEDERATE.

VOL. 1. RALEIGH, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1864. NO. 13.

Why need we display to the public the "tight fit" of this suit, when Mr. Holden puts it on. How he bursts the seams in his effort to wear it. He and the *Progress* will still *hug* Mr. Stephens. Paddy did'nt hung him more furiously, although he "loved him betther than any other mon living." Here's a couple that love him just as well for their purpose, and "its themselves that are after hugging him."

As Mr. Stephens' speech will be spread over this State for Mr. Holden's benefit, we shall hereafter take up his argument on the military and *habeas corpus* bills.

"We Can't Get On! We Can't Get On!"

The poor, piteous, plaintive wail of the locked-up Starling of Sterne. "I can't get out! I can't get out! said the starling," has caused many a throb of sympathy, many a tear from those who read the sad recital of imprisonment and sorrow. So clearly drawn is the picture, that the mind's eye sees the captive bird in his cage, marks how in vain he obtrudes his beak between the bars of his prison-house, how he ruffles his delicate plumage against the cold iron; and the ear hears with responsive melancholy the bitter repining of the baffled captive"—I can't get out—I can't get out." Something like unto this is the doleful tribulative scream of Mr. Holden and the *Progress*. "We can't get on—we can't get on the Georgia platform." Not so melodious is this tale of woe as that of the poor starling, by reason that there is all the difference imaginable between this bird of romance and the two political magpies whose unavailing discords we are now describing. But in one sense there is all possible similitude. Both are essaying an unperformable task: both are crying an unavailable regret. No, they "can't get on, they can't get on the Georgia platform." Wide as are its follies, broad as are its absurdities, space enough as there is upon it for discontent and partyism; it has no place for Mr. Holden and *his* associate agitators. Universally—every press, without exception, in Georgia, repudiates him and his; and mostly those the nearest to the centre of the Georgia platform, are they who most distinctly disclaim his fellowship and companionship. They are they who, in the language of the *Progress*, are most profuse in denunciations of treason and traitors in North Carolina; and when they so denounce, they mean Mr. Holden and the *Progress*—and the *Progress* feels it. The *Progress* bewails—"WHY IS THIS?"

The answer is simple: It is because the "Georgia platform" means negotiation by the Government. North Carolina agitation urges illegal negotiation by the people.

Georgia means Independence. Agitation means "the best terms it can get." Georgia means the integrity of the Confederacy.—North Carolina agitation, through Mr. Holden, has unqualifiedly recommended the surrender of Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland and West Virginia.

Lastly: Georgia expresses unanimous, hearty confidence in Mr. President Davis. Does Mr. Holden? Do the agitators *adopt* that plank of the platform? As far is the north pole from the south pole—as is the east from the west—so far is the agitation move from the Georgia platform. Both are bad in their ways—the difference is between folly and crime.

But, says Mr. Holden, speaking through the *Progress* of April the 9th,—"We adopt Mr. Stephens' speech as our platform, and are willing to rise or fall in such company." It was only a short time since that Mr. Vice President Stephens was hugged; now he is *adopted* by Mr. Holden and the Raleigh *Progress*; THEY ARE WILLING to rise or fall in his company. But they "can't get on" to Mr. Stephens. While they *are willing* to rise in his company, he rejects the proposition and leaves them to *fall* in their own. They adopt him, but he don't adopt them—he very decidedly non-adopts them.

Mr. Stephens says: "I have heard that one object of the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, was to put a muzzle on certain presses, and a bit in the mouth of certain speakers in North Carolina. * * I know nothing of the politics of North Carolina; nothing of the position of her leading public men. If there be traitors there, let them be constitutionally arrested, tried and punished." Of whom has Mr. Stephens heard that were to be MUZZLED?

While in their amazing condescension they are ADOPTING the Vice President; he does not know THEM. He has only heard something of muzzles and bits on presses and speakers in North Carolina; and for his part, if there are any traitors, he wants them punished.

"We can't get on—we can't get on to the Georgia platform"—say the disconsolate magpies; and their dismal, mournful lamentation reaches through the long, long night.

We have it from reliable authority, says the Macon *Confederate*, that, not long since, General Polignac made a descent upon the Yankees who had settled on the rich lands in the vicinity of Lake Providence, La., and were preparing to raise a fine crop, surrounded the plantations, drove off every horse, mule, ox and cow, stripped the owners "out of their boots," and left desolate Yankee planters wringing their "pickers and stealers" over a blasted crop and a bootyless community. Good for Polignac.

Mr. McCrea, a Yankee Missionary at Beaufort, S. C., for converting the negroes, has been put in jail for selling them whiskey.

The Standard Revivimus.

The Semi-weekly *Standard*, dated April 20, is before us. It contains Vice President Stephens' speech, a few articles of editorial matter, and the proceedings of a *Holden* Conservative meeting held in Wake county on the 16th instant

From the first editorial, we learn that "the regular publication of the *Standard* will be resumed early in May."

The second editorial is a chapter on "Secret Circulars"—in which it is *denied* that two issues of the Standard, bearing the same date, but very dissimilar, have been issued from that office. It also denies *in toto* the "*secret circular*" business charged against it. Well, we have been so informed, as we believed credibly. It will remain for our informants to verify the statement. We expect them to be able to do so.

But the *Standard* HAS found a sure-enough "secret circular," and it publishes it too—heralds it forth to the world as a veritable "mare's nest" it has found! What is it? A "confidential" circular, issued by some gentlemen who proposed to other gentlemen that a fund be raised, for the purpose of establishing a newspaper at the seat of government of the State, to combat and endeavor to overthrow the mischievous and pernicious doctrines that this same *Standard* was promulgating. This is all—nothing more—nothing less. There is nothing in it clandestine—nothing of which any of the signers of the Circular are afraid or ashamed. On the contrary, they, no doubt, are thankful to the Standard for its publication; for by this means many will read the Circular who would not have seen it in any other way. It was issued for a noble, a bold, a patriotic purpose; and most nobly has it succeeded in accomplishing the designs contemplated.

The Standard then goes on to say that the *Confederate* newspaper owes its existence to this circular—that it "is a joint stock concern, and the Editors—Col. McRae and Mr. Gorman—are expected to serve the stockholders or retire. They can express no opinion of their own and then rely on the people to sustain them, but they are the bond-servants of a secret body of stockholders, and are obliged to write and do as they are told."

The files of the *Confederate* since its publication, we take it, the *Standard* itself being judge, has been a pretty bold, independent, out-spoken journal, and has been as free from dictation from any quarter as any that we know of—and its Editors, themselves the largest stockholders in the concern, are men as little liable to allow themselves to be "the bond-servants of any man or set of men, as the *Standard*, and no one knows it better than the *Standard* itself. This is all clap-trap and demagoguism, in which the *Standard* is proverbially proficient. But enough of this *for the present*.

The next thing is a card signed "W. W. Holden," responding to "several invitations to address the people as a candidate for Governor." "Under the circumstances," he "most respectfully declines to canvass the State." He told them so when he announced himself a candidate. He is "not afraid to meet Gov. Vance" or any one else; but he is "not vain enough to hope that he could change or control the opinions of the people by a canvass," and he is "not disposed to add to the excitement that prevails in the public mind, by haranguing the people for their votes, &c., &c.

What a modest, quiet, unassuming man Mr. W. W. Holden has become, to-be-sure, since he became the self-announced candidate for Governor.

Then comes an editorial on Mr. Stephens' speech, which the *Standard* pronounces "the greatest speech of the age;" but it does *not* say, as the *Progress* did for Mr. Holden, that Mr. Stephens' views and his are "*identically the same*." The furthest it could venture was to say, that "the views embodied in these documents, are such as we have uniformly maintained."

Then we have "the Conservative Platform"—"composed of two planks: first, the rights of the people to govern. Second, the perpetual, unremitting force of the civil law over the military power."

Then follows the Election returns from the camps on the election of Congressman from the 7th district. And lastly, the proceedings of a "Conservative meeting in Wake county," in which, among a number of other things, Gov. Vance is right roundly abused, and Mr. Holden lavished with fulsome praise. Of all which we may have more to say anon.

The Soldiers' Vote.

We are indebted to our friends in the army for the following additional returns of the vote in the camps, for Congressman in the seventh district:

	Foster,	Ramsey,	Leach.
32d Regiment,	7	22	0
45th "	5	3	2
14th "	104	0	36
15th and 49th reg's,	40	8	148
46th Regiment,	43	4	64
27th "	6	0	15
44th "	41	7	29
26th "	116	15	29
52d "	18	0	23
Fayetteville Arsenal,	4	5	2

The "Anson Guards" gave Foster 52—Leach *nary one*.

The Situation.

The spring campaign opens most auspiciously for our arms in every direction where movements have been made; and the signs of activity in the enemy's lines, render it almost certain that but a few days will elapse before the great conflict in Virginia will be commenced. Our brave boys are confident of victory in that great onset; and the New York Herald tells us that if Grant is beaten there this time, it will be the last great battle in Virginia. That we will be successful, the confident pulsation that thrills every patriotic heart, in the army and at home, makes assurance doubly sure. Other important events will soon transpire, that we have not a doubt will thrill the loyal heart with joy.

The recent grand achievements at Shreveport and at Fort Pillow, we predict are but the precursors of still more glorious and extensive results to our arms. Indeed, the Richmond Enquirer says the result at Fort Pillow is still more important and gratifying than the immediate achievement itself. Fort Pillow is situatrd on the east bank of the Mississippi river, north of Memphis, Tenn., about forty-five miles in a direct course, and some seventy miles by water. The fort was built by our forces during the first year of the war. It has been much improved and strengthened in the hands of the enemy, and was considered quite formidable on the land side; while on the water front it commands the river navigation effectually. So favorable for defence are the natural conditions of the locality, that some of our military men have regarded the place as impregnable in the possession of a Confederate garrison well provisioned.

Subjugating the South.

We give a brief synopsis, to-day, of the debate in the northern House of Representatives, on the resolution to expel Mr. Long because he expressed the hope that the South would not be subjugated. We call particular attention to the bold and defiant remarks of Mr. Harris, of Maryland, whose sentiments, notwithstanding the late fraudulent majority in favor of emancipation, we believe are in accord with a large majority of the people of Maryland.

In the connection of *subjugating* the South, we see from a circular letter printed in London, that a Society has been organized in that city "for promoting the cessation of hostilities in America." The second article of this Circular declares—"That the subjugation or extermination of SIX MILLIONS OF PEOPLE, is an alternative unparalleled in christian times."

We append below the Circular of this Society in London:

Prospectus of the Society for Promoting the Cessation of Hostilities in America. Office—215 Regent Street.

1. That the war now raging in America demands the earnest attention of every friend to civilization and humanity.

2. That the subjugation or extermination of six millions of people is an alternative unparalleled in Christian times.

3. That it is the duty of every Christian throughout the world to use his influence against the further prosecution of such a war.

4. That with a view of obtaining and concentrating such influence, and of bringing it to bear upon the belligerents through the medium of friendly Powers, it will be the business of the Society to draw up and circulate papers, petitions and correspondence relating to the war, and take such other measures as may be necessary to enlist general sympathy and co-operation in the interests of peace.

5. That a subscription list be opened, and efforts made to raise funds and to form co-operative associations throughout Great Britain and Ireland and the continent of Europe.

THE LONDON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Rear Admiral T. Vernon Anson, Chairman.
T. Ray, Esq., Vice Chairman.
Crewe Alston, Esq., Treasurer.
F. W Tremlett, M. A., LLD., F. R. G. S.,
J. R. Ferneyhough, Honorary Secretaries.
Captain Redman, J. P.
G. H. Brooks, Esq.
T. D. Tremlett, Esq., M. A.
R. Shand, Esq.
Commander Beckett, R. N., F. R. A. S.

In some remarks accompanying the above resolutions, the Honorary Secretaries say:

It can hardly be necessary to point out the evils which must result from a continuance of this contest, when the sinking of stone fleets,—the submerging of districts 5,000 miles in extent,—the wholesale plunder of unarmed citizens—of women as well as men,—the shooting of non-belligerents in cold blood,—the burning of peaceful villages and defenceless towns, are regarded as the legitimate objects of the invasion.

A correspondent of the Richmond *Sentinel*, R. H. Kurn, denies a statement made in the papers a short time since, that the plowshare had not spared the graves of our soldiers buried on the Seven Pines battle field. He says: "The plowshare has never touched the remains of a single soldier, unless purely accidental. So far from plowing up graves, mine has been the only hands (except one solitary instance) that have grasped the shovev to heap the earth upon the bleaching bones of a single soldier.

The battle-field is so accessesable to any person from the city, and the injustice of the charge so palpable, that I would not reply to it, lest its going into Our Southern sister States uncorrected, might give credence to the report.

Your obedient servant,
R. H. KURN."

No Assistance.

"Mr. Holden is for a vigorous prosecution of the war, and he is also in favor of a vigorous prosecution of steps looking to a negotiation for an honorable peace."—*Raleigh Progress, April 16th.*

Now, if any one says that the Editor had any assistance in editing that paragraph, we should be inclined to believe him; for it can't be possible that, that can be the work of one pen. Only to behold! Mr. Holden in his own part "PROSECUTING STEPS" "*looking*," &c.—Those "*steps*" had better "*look*" out for themselves, when Mr. Holden *prosecutes* them.

If Mr. Holden is "for a vigorous prosecution of the war," there is a *step* which he might prosecute that would verify his earnestness—the *step of the soldier*. There is no reason on the face of the earth, now that he has leisure to be a candidate, that he should not take his place and fight a little for his property.

We are indebted to friends at Kinston for a considerable number of Northern and Newbern papers, sent to us within the last few days. We shall make use of such information as we find of interest to our readers; and bespeak a continuance of these favors on the part of our friends below.

From the North.

INTERESTING DEBATE IN THE YANKEE CONGRESS OF THE MOTION TO EXPEL A MEMBER.

An interesting debate occurred in the House of Representatives at Washington, last week, to expel Mr. Harris, member from Maryland. The head and front of his offending seems to have been in declaring that "he *endorsed every word* that the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Long) had uttered, and would stand by them for weal or woe." Continuing, Mr. Harris said:

He was a peace man—a radical peace man. He was for recognizing the Southern Confederacy, and for acquiescing in the doctrine of secession. War would never bring on a Union worth a cent. He was for peace and Union too. [Laughter.] He was a better man than any of them. [Renewed laughter.] If we cannot make peace let us have two splendid Governments—two happy Governments. The North had been deceived by stereotyped falsehood. When this war commenced Secretary Seward said it could be put down in sixty days. Instead of seventy five thousand men ending it you have now called for a million of soldiers. *A braver set of men never existed on God's earth than exists in the South.*

The President has proved himself unfit to be trusted with the money power. He had voted against men and money to carry on the war; he would not support that war money should be *spent by a tyrant*. Not a man of a dollar would he vote for this *infernal war*. It was the most stupendous folly that ever disgraced any people on the face of God's earth. If this be treason make the most of it.

The South ask you to leave them in peace; but no, you say you will bring them into subjection. That is not done yet, *and God Almighty grant that it may never be.* I hope you will never subjugate the South.

Mr. Tracy, of Pennsylvania, rose to ask a question, but was loudly called to order by members on the opposite side. He desired to know whether, within these halls, the gentleman could invoke Almighty God that the American arms shall not prevail?

Mr. Washburne—For one, I protest against any man uttering such language in this hall.

Mr. Harris—You mean you are afraid of it.—(Cries of "order" from the Republican side.)

Here Mr. Harris was cut short—Mr. Washburne objecting to his proceding, and unanimous consent being required, by the rules of the House, for him to continue with his remarks. Mr. Washburne here offered a resolution expelling Mr. Harris. Before a vote was had Mr. Fernando Wood said—"If Mr. Harris is to be expelled for the utterance of these sentiments, you may include me for a concurrence in them." The motion for expulsion was rejected—ayes 81, noes 50—there not being the required two-third vote. Mr. Schenck then offered a resolution declaring Mr. Harris "an unworthy member of this House, and is hereby severely censured," which was adopted—ayes 92, noes 18.

NOTE.—To correctly understand the significance of the debate and the votes above, it is well to have the exact words of Mr. Long, out of which all this matter grew. Speaking of the war, Mr. Long employed this language:

"I now believe that there are but two alternatives—either an acknowledgment of the South as an independent nation, or their complete subjugation and extermination as a people. Of these alternatives, I prefer the former."

For this, a resolution for expelling Mr. Long was offered, but failed, then a resolution of censure, which is still pending. For endorsing this language a resolution to expel Mr. Harris was urged, but failed by a vote of eighty-one against fifty-eighty but the censure of the House was visited upon him by a vote of ninety-two against eighteen. Mr. Harris may be well proud of this mark of censure with which the Yankee Congress has decorated his brow.

NAVY MEDICAL BUREAU, C. S. N.
Warrenton, N. C., 18th April, 1864.

MINERS WANTED.

THOSE persons skilled in the business, can find profitable employment by applying to Capt. A. B. FAIRFAX, C. S. N., by letter at Warrenton, or to W. W. PRIBOE,
ap 20-12-2t Maj. & Ch'f Q. M., Raleigh, N. C.

Fayetteville Observer, Charlotte Democrat, and Wilmington Journal, copy two weeks in weekly and send bills to this office.

Lost Certificate of Stock.—The undersigned has lost the following Certificate, No. 1424 for $500, issued to T. N. Cooper, Raleigh, dated July 20th 1863, and assigned over to Sam'l Martin. Every person is forbidden to purchase the same, as application will be made for the renewal. SAM'L MARTIN.
4 6w* Salem, N. C

THE CONFEDERATE.

ADVERTISING.

ADVERTISEMENTS will be inserted at two notes per square of ten lines (or less) for each insertion. Marriage notices and obituaries will be charged as advertisements.

JOB WORK.

JOB WORK of every description will be executed at this Office with dispatch, and as neatly as can be done anywhere in the Southern Confederacy.

To the Voters of Nash County.—Fellow CITIZENS AND SOLDIERS.—I take this method of announcing myself a candidate for the office of Sheriff of Nash County. You are all aware that I am deprived of the privilege of appearing before you in the usual way, to declare myself a candidate; I hope, therefore, to be excused for doing so in this way. I feel, Fellow citizens, and Soldiers, in doing this, that I am responding to the call of many voters of my county. This is my first attempt to be placed in public office, and can only promise, if elected, to serve the people justly and impartially. I have ever felt that I was ready and willing to serve the people of my county in any capacity in which they might place me, to the best of my ability. It is not my design to over-estimate my claims, but to speake a few plain and simple facts. I entered the army early in the spring of 1861, and have belonged to it ever since; during which time I have been twice severely wounded, from which I fear I shall never entirely recover.

It is for the reasons given and though the earnest solicitations of my friends, that I have consented to be a candidate. I hope notwithstanding I am far from your midst, that my claims will be duly considered, and that I may have the pleasure of seeing my name handed in to the Ballot Box more times than any other, next August, should I be one of the fortunate ones who escape the Yankee balls during the coming Campaign. I am,

GEO. W. [illegible]
1st Lieut. Co. A. 47th N. C. Reg't.
Near Orange C. H. Va., April 13th 1864.
ap. 19 -71-d1t twl-w1.

Spirit of the Age and Progress please copy two times, and send bills to this office.

$50 REWARD.

Stop the Horse Thief.—Stolen on the 14th inst., from the undersigned, from the stable of REWBEN PERRY, while on his regular round to his stands, an iron-gray STALLION, stout built, legs nearly black, poney built, full mane and tail. I will give the above reward for the recovery of the horse or the detection of the thief.
Y. N THORNTON.
April 17th, 1864. ap-20-12 w10t*

Notice.—Taken up and committed to the Jail of Catawba, a dark NEGRO man about fifty years of age. Said negro says his name is PLEASANT, and that he is the property of Hugh Carlyle and Geo. Henderson of Georgia.
A. J HELTEN, Jailor.
Newton N. C. April 13th 1864. ap. 20 12-w6m.

Jailor's Notice.—Taken up and Committed to the Jail of Chatham county, N. C., a NEGRO MAN, who says his name is Washington; that he belongs to Mrs. Emily Williams of New Hanover county, N. C. He is about 5 feet 10 inches high and dark complected. The owner is hereby notified to come forward, prove property, and pay charges, or he will be dealt with according to law.
W. HANKS, Jailor.
April 11, 1864. ap 20-12-3w*

Office of Chief Quartermaster, Raleigh, February 17th 1864. Proposals will be received at this office until the 28th inst., for the manufacture of Oil from the Tithe Pea Nuts.

Proposals must state the price per gallon for the oil produced; as the Government will require the total produce of oil as well as oil cake.
W. W. PEIRCE.
20-d3t&w3t Maj. and Chief Q. M.

☞ Wilmington Journal, Fayetteville Observer, Raleigh Standard and Petersburg Register, copy 3 times and send bill to Maj. Peirce.

Lead Mine Interest for Sale.

I AM DISPOSED TO SELL MY INTEREST in the WYTHE UNION LEAD MINE COMPANY, notwithstanding the property is thought to pay a heavy per centum to the stockholders. I invite gentlemen of capital to examine the property. Mr. Wm. Kohler, the agent, will give all the necessary information, or they can call and see me at Hickory Grove or Poplar Camp, in Wythe county, Va.
mh 26-52-d1t-w4t A. N. CHAFFIN.

$50 REWARD.

RANAWAY FROM THE SUBSCRIBER ON the 14th of February, a NEGRO WOMAN, field woman in about 30 years of age, complexion black, height 5 feet four inches, and has lost her right breast by a cancer. Suppose she is trying to pass herself off as a free woman in the neighborhood of Knap of Reeds, or Tally Ho, Granville county, N. C. The above reward will be paid for her delivery to me or confinement in jail so that I can get her. SARAH K. ROSS,
ap 1—57-w4t* Durhams Station, N. C.

HIDES, HIDES,

HAVING OBTAINED THE SERVICES OF Mr. Woodward, one of the best Tanners in the Confederate States, I am now ready and receiving HIDES to Tan on Shares. I tan for one-half, and sell my share to owners, (except speculators,) at one dollar per pound, or for one-third and sell as I choose. Tanning done for indigent soldiers' families free of charge. I will re-tan and finish leather for the government or individuals on reasonable terms. Persons requiring information are referred to the editors of the *Confederate*. J. ROSS. JEFFREYS.
ap 1—57-d1w3w4w*

9 GROSS OF STAVE BUTTONS, FOR FORTY dollars a dozen, at
ap 21-73-1t* RICHARDSON'S.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, April 27, 1864.

Change in Our Terms.

The enormous increase in price of all articles and labor necessary to carry on our business, compels us to make an advance in our prices. The terms of the *Confederate* will therefore, from this date, be as follows:

For the Daily,	six months	$15 00
"	three "	9 00
"	one "	3 00
For the Tri-weekly,	six months,	10 00
"	three "	5 00
For the Weekly,	six months,	5 00

Advertisements $3 per square of ten lines, or less.

The Half and the Whole Sheet.

The self-made candidate, in his self-supporting organ, the *Standard*, of the 20th inst., says that the *Confederate* has repeatedly charged the editor of the *Standard* "with secretly circulating the *Standard*"—that one half-sheet of the *Standard*, bearing date with another half-sheet, has been sent to the army, while the other half sheet was withheld from the army."

This is not exactly the charge that we made. Mr. Holden lacks precision, or perverts the facts. What we did charge was this; That the *Standard* was being published privately; that a half-sheet of date the 6th of April, and a full sheet of the same date, were both put into circulation about the 29th of March—not to the editor's subscribers and exchanges, but to "*certain chosen ones*;" and that the half-sheet, not containing the article signed "*Conservative*," which was an attack on Gov. Vance, was circulated in the army; That the whole sheet, containing this article, was circulated among the people. The facts of our charge are thus far admitted:

1st. That about the last of March, two *Standards* made their appearance—one a half-sheet and the other a whole sheet; that both bore a subsequent and the same subsequent date, 6th of April.

2nd. That the half-sheet was sent to the army, and that the whole sheet was sent to subscribers and exchanges, and that the two did not contain the same matter though of the same date.

The explanation of Mr. Holden, candidate and editor, is:

"About the last of March we prepared a full "Weekly *Standard*, containing on the outside "Gov. Brown's message and other documents; "and while the outside was being printed off, "in order to furnish some friends, who happened "to be in the office, with copies of Gov. Brown's "message, we directed the pressman to print a "few sheets on both sides, so as to make a half-"sheet containing the message. As soon as the "inside form was ready we printed that off, mak-"ing the full sheet of the Weekly *Standard*, which "was sent to our subscribers and exchanges. The "half-sheet referred to would never have been "thought of but for the great anxiety to see Gov. "Brown's message. There was no "private" or "secret" publication of the *Standard*—no half "sheet sent to the army and another half-sheet "withheld."

It will be seen that Mr. Holden says, that in order to gratify the desire to see Governor Brown's message, he "directed the pressman to print a few sheets on both sides, so as to make a half sheet containing the message."—By reference to the full sheet, it will be seen that Gov. Brown's message covers the first page and that opposite thereto, on the second page, are—1st, "Abstract of the Speech of Hon. A. H. Stephens; next, nominations for the Legislature; next, a communication signed "Leachburg"—all in parallel columns; then "Public Meeting in Harnett; Then and Now"; "The Tax Bill," &c.; these make up the balance of the second page. On the third page is the article "Conservative," and on the fourth the "Extracts from Gov. Graham's Speech," and "the 4th of July Oration of Mr. Holden."

Now, if Mr. Holden's explanation be true, the page opposite on the half-sheet to "Gov. Brown's message," will contain these "extracts from Gov. Graham's speech," and Mr. Holden's oration;" while this will not remove the charge that Mr. Holden withheld from the army, "Conservative's" attack on Gov. Vance, because this communication bears date the 21st of March, and there was plenty of time to put it in print.

But the facts we have stated will relieve Mr. Holden of a graver charge, which we shall not make until better informed. To solve our own difficulty, we respectfully ask of Mr. Holden to send us the half sheet from his office of date the 6th of April, which we claim to be due us in exchange for our *Daily Confederate*, which we regularly furnish to him. He may be sure that we will do him justice, if we find his explanation varies the case from the information which we have received.

The Six Per Cent. Bonds.

We call public attention to the advertisement of the C. S. Treasurer, in this paper, for the sale of the Six per cent. Bonds, on the 12th of May prox. The law provides that the bonds shall be for one hundred dollars, or some multiple of one hundred dollars, and in accordance, "the sales will be made in lots to suit purchasers." It indicates a disposition on the part of the Secretary of the Treasury to raise the funds necessary for Government purposes, in a way different from that heretofore in practice of simply adding to the issues of an already overburdened currency. It is a proceeding in conformity to what was contemplated by the framers of the late currency act, which act was intended to effect the double purpose of reducing the volume of the currency, and restricting its amount within safe limits, and at the same time to furnish a capital upon which the Government could command money at will.

Bonds, as attractive as these now offered, should command a high premium. While all other Confederate securities have been less affected by the currency and tax bills than any other stocks offered in market, and are uniformly quoted at a considerable premium, it must be apparent upon comparison how much more desirable are these as investments. The pledge which the Government makes in regard to them is such as it has never before given in regard to any other issues. So binding is it upon the public faith of the Government that any violation of its pledge might even lead to international complications, should foreigners be induced to become purchasers.

The Plymouth Victory.

We gather from the Goldsboro' *State Journal* the following particulars of the expedition against the yankees at Plymouth, additional to those given by us on yesterday. Before going to press, we hope to be able to give accounts of the further operations of the movement:

Among the noble and lamented patriots who fell, we have only learned the name of the gallant Col. Mercer, of the 21st Georgia. The Lieutenant Colonel of the same regiment is also reported killed.

We only add for the present, that this is not the first field on which General Hoke has written his worth as a man, his bravery as a soldier, his skill as a General and his entire consecration to the cause of his country. May the great Ruler of all worlds and all armies preserve his life and may his adoring country prove itself worthy of his sublime exploits.

Of the gallant *privates* who fought the battle, took the town, captured the prisoners and sunk the gunboats, how shall we express the admiration and the gratitude of the country, where endurance and patriotism they so nobly illustrate by their unrivalled courage! These must be manifested by acts—words cannot express them. Let us honor the dead by words of sympathy, and deeds of benefaction to their mourning relatives, and thus show to the world, and each other that we are all members of the same body.

The number of the yankee slain and wounded we have not received yet. It is known, however, that one of the two gunboats sunk had on board one hundred and twenty men, only seven of whom escaped death. Our loss is stated at about two hundred and fifty killed and wounded, most of them, we are happy to add, but slightly wounded in the legs or arms. These losses on our side were chiefly sustained in a repulse of our troops received in a charge upon the town. Immediately afterwards a *second* charge was made with complete success—Ransom's brigade distinguishing itself in an especial manner.

Our forces captured 25 pieces of artillery, mostly heavy guns, and an immense amount of ordnance and commissary stores.

The Voice of the Army.

We are informed that the first question that is asked of a soldier on his return to the army from a furlough, is—"How are the spirits of the people at home?" And too frequently the reply is—"Well, they are low down—about half of them are whipped themselves, and believe we are, or will be. They are mad about the tax law—they are grumbling over the new currency and funding bills—they say they have sent their sons to the army, and now they want some of our negroes, and so on."

"Yes," says an indignant soldier, "your sons have come. The little hillocks now to be seen thick and numerous, tell you where they have been buried, or their bleaching bones show you where they fell. These are turned from—though the heart mourns their fate, yet patriotism swells the bosom and gently whispers, I claim them a sacrifice upon a nation's altar. The sacrifice is recognized; there is no desponding.

"Now comes legislation, not death, and it requires a sacrifice. What, of life, limb or blood? No, no, nothing but a limited pecuniary sacrifice. Now comes the winter of their discontent; despondency reigns supreme, and ruin runs riot. Discord, discontent and dissatisfaction array themselves. Congress is corrupt—the administration unjust and despotic. Oh, Liberty, how many sacrifices we men *at home* make for thee?

"But there is a power which yet stands pure and undefiled, and thank heaven it is rapidly battering down all such weakness. It is the spirit of the Press. History has no instance where such unanimity existed among so large a number. It is the cloud by day and pillar of fire by night, that guides, directs and cheers the heroes of this mighty revolution."

SUSPENDED.—The Shelby, N. C. Eagle has been suspended, the enrolling officer of that District having conscribed two of its compositors. Fortunately, the Eagle does not belong to Mr. Holden's new secession party and the State will, therefore, be allowed to remain in the Confederacy. We suppose the matter will be made right and any wrong redressed.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

What a world of political capital the *Standard* and *Progress* are deprived of, by the Eagle not being one of their kidney. Oh! had it only been a paper advocating Mr. Holden's election, what a howl would have been raised over "the suppression of a free press by the strong arm of military power and military despotism." But then it is an anti-agitation paper, and it don't matter much. The Eagle doesn't complain very heavily; because it knows whatever of wrong there may be in the matter will be promptly corrected.

We learn, from the London Index, that the Southern Prisoners' Relief Fund, under the control of a committee of merchants, have collected in Europe, in the last twelve months, nearly $15,000, which sum has been expended in relieving Confederate soldiers confined in Yankee prisons. The managers of the fund are assisted in their efforts by ladies in the Northern cities, who visit the sufferers, and give them such aid as the means at their disposal admit of.

SPEECH OF GOV. Z. B. VANCE,

BEFORE THE CITIZENS OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY,

Fayetteville, Friday, April 22d, 1864.

[REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE DAILY CAROLINIAN.]

His Excellency, Gov. Vance, arrived in Fayetteville at Yesterday evening about 9 o'clock, and was received by the Mayor in a neat and appropriate speech. This morning at an early hour, the people commenced arriving from the country. At 11 o'clock the Governor appeared upon the stand, accompanied by Lieut. Gov. Holmes, Col. Mallett, the Mayor and a number of gentlemen. Hon. T. C. Fuller introduced Gov. Vance, in a few appropriate and well timed remarks, when the Governor spoke in substance as follows:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am gratified to see so many present this morning. I have done nothing to merit such a compliment, but hope in the future to be able to repay you, and will endeavor to prove myself worthy of the confidence of the people of North Carolina.

I suppose you desire to hear something concerning the condition of our country. Yes, our country,—our once united and prosperous, but now divided and devastated country, the country of Washington, and the noble men who aided him in delivering it from the grasp of tyrants. It was once our glory and our pride—it is now suffering, torn and rent asunder by an awful civil war. I come to remind you "that the powers that be are ordained of God," and His providence has placed me in a position to require them to be so regarded, and respected. I feel the responsibility of my position, as Governor of the State, and I come as a dying man, to address dying men, and as I must account to Him who ordained these powers, and must be held to a strict account for the manner in which I speak, so you will be accountable for the manner in which you hear. If you close your eyes to the dangers which now surround us, and refuse to heed the warnings of the times, your hands and skirts will not be clean of the blood of our gallant men who have so long been battling for liberty and national honor. I will speak first of the

STATE OF THE COUNTRY, AND

Of the remedy by which it will be restored to peace and prosperity!

We are in the crisis of our fate. All feel that the political and military campaign upon which we are now entering, will decide our fate as a government and a people. Before the autumnal winds shall blow upon us, and the leaves begin to fall, this great struggle will have been decided. Foreign nations are looking upon us—the world waits to see the results of our efforts. What a spectacle we have presented during the last *three* years. Though our enemies have waged a war against us unparalleled in its magnitude, it was waged with a vigor unparalleled in modern times, and while we have in some quarters lost ground, we have gained in others.

At the beginning of the war we found it difficult to keep every body out of the army. Grey haired men, boys, and the ladies cheered the men as they marched to the front.—Every body then wanted to *go*, but all this amounts to nothing now. It is easy to serve the country in times of peace. When danger is distant, men can afford to be valiant. "Do not the publicans and sinners the same?"—Such enthusiasm never carried a nation through its trials. We need a pure and unselfish patriotism—a devotion so strong that men will be ready and willing to suffer, yea, to die for their country. Have we this love, this enduring devotion? If so, we need not fear. We have suffered, and are now suffering.—The crops have been short, there is an apparent scarcity of food, and demagogues (of whom hell has a larger share than any other class,) begin to whisper in your ear we had better stop this war, and take any terms of peace we can get. Here is my fear—here is the country's danger. I do not fear the Confederate soldiers. If you remain firm and loyal, the soldiers will remain true. If you give up, the soldiers will give up. If you can suffer, we shall conquer our enemies. If not, we shall fail, and any people will deserve to fail whose selfishness renders them unwilling to endure suffering in a cause like ours.

PEACE.

Everybody wants peace. Peace is the normal state of man—the gray headed fathers, the aged mothers who weep over the graves of their fallen sons—the widowed mother when she looks upon her children, desires peace. Peace, nothing can prosper without it. Every statesman, every minister, should study to devise plans for, and earnestly pray the God of nations to give us peace. Peace! the soldier never draws a trigger that is not for peace—all want peace.

HOW CAN WE OBTAIN PEACE.

Some say by separate State action, by the State going out of the Confederacy as they did the old Union. Can North Carolina obtain peace by taking into her hands her own sovereignty, which she has delegated to the Confederate government by the act of her Convention? Has she not delegated to the Confederate government the right to declare war and make treaties of peace? This transfer implies State sovereignty. The power to declare war and make treaties of peace she has delegated to the Confederate government. Suppose you call a Convention—as it is the only means by which you can recall the powers ceded to the Confederate government—to do this you would have to withdraw the State of North Carolina from the Confederacy. So soon as you withdraw, which you have a right to do, you then will have performed your part of the compact. Would this give you peace? Let us see; She says to the Confederate government, I have resumed the powers I delegated to you. Now the Confederate government is under no obligation to assist or protect North Carolina, and while a member of the Confederacy, the government would have no right to coerce her; but were she to withdraw, she could not claim the benefit of the right. The Confederate government would have the right to treat her as an enemy, and to declare war against her. She would then sustain to the Confederacy the relations that England and France now sustain.

WHAT WOULD THEN BE OUR SITUATION.

The only railroad leading from the Southern States to Virginia, runs through North Carolina; over this railroad Gen. Lee gets troops and supplies. Now, if the State were neutral, she could not allow this, for it would be aiding one of the parties to this contest and would be regarded by the other as an act of war. Gen. Lee finds his reinforcements and supplies detained. What would be done? He would say, a parcel of fellows down in North Carolina are behaving badly, I must have my supplies, and will be compelled to send a portion of my forces and take possession of the railroad. What then, continued the Governor, could I do but call out the Militia officers, the Home Guard, and the old women, which are about all the forces I have left?—Thus you see, instead of one war we would have two. It is an easy thing to get into a fight, but it is not so easy to get out of one. Or suppose we, like the Jews, say, "We have Abraham to our father," would that give us peace? His tax collectors would demand money to pay their war debt. And would our soldiers be mean enough to respect a summons from me, informing them that the State had deserted her sisters and united with their enemies? They would have to cross the Rappahannock, and from the graves of their brothers, point their guns in this direction. I will die before I'll make such a proclamation! What! must the brave men who have fought from Richmond to Gettysburg be required to fight the men who have stood with them upon a hundred bloody fields?—Would not the voice of your dead sons cry out from their rude graves; shame, shame to you? Would not the light of their illustrious example reveal the degradation of a people who would perform such a scandalous act?

Is there a man here who has a son in the army, that would not prefer his falling battling for our rights, than to see him placed in a position which would render him liable to be called upon to aid Lincoln in the subjugation of the South? If there be such an one here, I would say of him as a man said in court of a witness—he is unworthy of common sense, and guilty of fits.

Some may say that I am exaggerating—that I am agitated. They do not want a Convention, to secede, but to enable North Carolina to resume her sovereignty, that she may take steps for making peace. Well, if she does not secede, then she will only advise the Confederate government; and why can she not do this as well through her Legislature? I believe the Legislature contains as much ability and influence as a Convention would, and it would be just as much respected. Be not be deceived by this ado about a Convention. It reminds me of a fellow named Jenkins,—and I hope there is no one here named Jenkins—(a voice, yes there is.) Well, I do not mean him. Jenkins used to take a drop too much, and when in that unfortunate condition he was afraid of his wife, (and Jenkins was not alone in that custom.) As the story goes, he went home one night, walked very cautiously, but managed to overturn the chairs &c., and after divesting himself of his clothing, got into the bed and turned his face to the wall to prevent Mrs. Jenkins from smelling his breath. She saw it all, and unable to retain her indignation, she said, Jenkins, turn over, you can't fool me—you are drunk clear through. (A laugh and cheers.) So it is with a few who are calling for a Convention. They can't fool me. They desire the State to go out of the Confederacy.

Why not appeal to the government through the Legislature, and your Governor would unite with them in that appeal, to present some terms of peace to the enemy, or while we wage the war, to offer to negotiate for peace. If this State is taken out of the Confederacy, you, fellow-citizens, will be ruined, and you will live to see the day when you will regret it.

MR. HOLDEN.

You have all heard of Holden, who wants my place, or wants to be Governor of North Carolina. If he knew as much about the place as I do, he would not be so anxious to have it. Yet fellow citizens, as you took me from the army, made me your Governor, I am entirely willing, I will confess I am anxious to serve you another term.

Mr. Holden is not here. I desired him to attend, I addressed a letter to him, informing him that I would be under the necessity of alluding to him personally, he declined, did not want to call the people from their farms. How considerate. What time would you have lost? As you are present to hear me, you could have listened to him. Very well, as the gal said when her sweetheart fainted after kissing her, if he dies I want it known that I did not kill him. He died himself. If he dies it is his own fault. I will not be held responsible for his death. But if he were here he would declare that he would rather be somewhere else.

He refers me to his card, which says I am not vain enough to hope to change any man's vote by speaking. Yet it is all very well to issue the *Standard* occasionally for electioneering purposes. He does not wish to disturb the people, by haranguing them; well let him retire from the canvass then, and there will be no excitement. The people must excuse him for all his offences. He reminds me of an old fellow who was arraigned before the Church for joining the Free Masons; some of his brethren got him off; he then joined the Odd Fellows, and was excused; he next joined the Sons of Temperance and wanted to be excused; an old brother said, we can't always be excusing a man; if we excuse him now, he will go and join the Railroad. The next time you hear of my competitor he will have joined the Railroad, as he has tried everything and never stuck to any principle long at a time.

He says his "*principles are well known.*"—Well known! Who knows them? How long did he ever hold a political principle? In 1856 he was a rank secessionist, and declared that Fremont's election would be cause for a dissolution of the Union, and now he is opposed to those who were secessionists; and yet he is a candidate on principle! Why does he not define his principles? Why did he suspend his paper? It is said from fear of being arrested under the act suspending the writ of *Habeas Corpus*? This cannot be so, for he publishes it occasionally. Is it fair that a man should remain mum—refuse to let the people know what his principles are? When did the like occur before? Have you or can you have respect for a man who publishes a paper slily. Some may say were he here I would not say so much about him. Let him come and see. It is a principle in common law, when a defendant does not appear in court, that judgment be rendered against him; and as he has not appeared, I shall move on the 4th of August to take judgment against him by default.

The impression has gone abroad that the man who runs against Holden will be beaten, and that Holden is for peace and Vance is opposed to it. Whenever you hear a man say that, look him right in the face and say, "Jim Jones, Zeb Vance says you are a liar and a scoundrel." But when you hear him say Zeb Vance is in favor of fighting rather than laying at the feet of Abraham, tell him that's so.

LINCOLN'S TERMS OF PEACE.

Lincoln says, lay down your arms, take an oath to support me, to carry out all the acts of Congress, emancipate your slaves, allow me to hang all your officers above the rank of Colonel, and then prostrate yourselves before me, and I will make peace with you. Do you want peace upon such terms? (Voices, no no!) Is there a man here so lost to common decency as to desire peace upon such degrading terms? Are these the terms upon which Branch, Pettigrew, Pender, Fisher, Shaw, Tew, Anderson, and thousands of others have died? If so, let us recall our men from the army and take up with dogs.—Mr. Holden's "principles are well known!" Who is here to tell you what they are?—When I tell you that they will plunge you into another war, who is here to deny it? We all want peace. Why has he not come out like a man, and told us the terms upon which he proposes peace. I am in favor of prosecuting the war for peace, which Holden helped to bring on. I was opposed to secession. Mr. Holden advocated it and worked for it. He is the author of that celebrated expression, "the last man and the last dollar." I entered the army to pay Mr. Holden's debt, and now he opposes me. I have from a child, followed Clay. Mr. Holden acted with Barnwell, Rhett, and others, and now opposes me because secessionists are going to vote for me, under a protest. He is like a man who built an overshot mill—lifted the flood-gates, and as the water commenced falling upon the wheel, he exclaimed: "Don't, don't, you will start the mill!"

We saw Mr. H. agitating the question of secession. We told him to let it alone. He said if Fremont was elected we will go out. We said, Holden, don't. But he would not listen to us. He did secede, and now he turns about and hates the original secessionists, and opposes me because some who assisted him support me. He deserted Douglas, the Union candidate, and supported Breckinridge, the secession candidate, and now he says his principles are well known. Upon what principle does he stand?

[Here the report of the speech in the *Carolinian* stops—with a line in brackets—Continued in our next.]

The Capture of Plymouth.

We are in receipt of very little additional reliable information, as to the movements of our forces since the capture of the garrison and batteries in and around Plymouth. A number of rumors are in circulation, among which is a report that our forces had attacked Washington, and the enemy were evacuating Newbern. But we have no positive information, at the present writing, as to the reliability of either statement. We think both highly probable, however, as the enemy will hardly be able to hold Newbern against an attack in the rear with iron clad gunboats, and a storming of their works in front.

Commander Wood, who had in charge the flotilla in the late expedition, has telegraphed to Richmond, that "about 2500 prisoners were taken at Plymouth—three or four hundred of them negroes—thirty pieces of artillery, one hundred thousand pounds of meat, one thousand barrels of flour, and a full garrison outfit. Two gunboats were sunk, another disabled, and a small steamer captured.

The Richmond *Dispatch* has the following additional particulars of the capture of Plymouth by Gen. Hoke:

The force engaged on our side was Hoke's brigade, commanded by Col. Mercer, of the 21st Ga., Ransom's brigade, commanded by Gen. Ransom, and Kemper's (Virginia) brigade, commanded by Col. Terry.

On Sunday afternoon, about 4 o'clock, our forces, under the command of Gen. Hoke, arrived in front of Plymouth, the fortifications being plainly visible through the trees behind which the Confederates were drawn up. The 1st Virginia regiment, commanded by Major Norton, was thrown forward as skirmishers, and the enemy's pickets retired behind their fortifications. Just as the firing commenced, a white object was seen in the field in front, which was supposed to be a flag of truce, but which proved, on inspection, to be a target planted there for artillery practice. In the same field there were several targets planted, and by previous practice the enemy had gotten a perfect range of all the approaches to their works. The Yankees opened on the skirmishers with the large guns in the fort which they were approaching, in which was mounted a 100 pounder Parrott and 8 inch Columbiad. No assault was made on Sunday afternoon, though the skirmishers were kept out.

During the afternoon a gunboat came out from behind the town and started up the river with a pleasure party on board. Our artillery opened on her, but though struck she proceeded on up the river, landed her passengers, and that night attempted to drop down to the town. She was again attacked by the artillery, and by some sharp-shooters posted on the banks for the purpose, but without stopping her.

On Monday our forces held the position assumed Sunday evening, the enemy shelling at times furiously. By this shelling, the following casualties of which we have heard, occurred in the first Virginia regiment: Delaware McMinn, wounded in the side, supposed mortally, Frank Josephs, ankle crushed; Theo. J. Robertson, in eight places, all slight; L. Payne, face, slight.

On Tuesday, it seems, heavy fighting occurred, with varied success, and on Wednesday morning the place was carried by assault, Hoke's brigade entering and charging with the bayonet up the principal streets. Col. Mercer, who led them, was killed. During Tuesday our artillery, including the Fayette Artillery, of Richmond, was planted within 150 yards of the fortifications and opened fire. The Fayette Artillery, it is said, suffered heavily from the enemy's fire.

The gunboat which went out of the Roanoke, it is said, made short work of the shipping in front of the town.

* * I have nothing of the politics

Seventh Congressional District.

CHATHAM COUNTY.

Leach—	in county 622;	army 198—	total 820
Foster—	" 284;	" 96	" 380
Ramsey—	" 141;	" 126	" 141

We are indebted to the Sheriff of Chatham for the above statement. We have received no returns from other counties in the district.

Gov. Vance at Fayetteville.

We give this morning a sketch from the Fayetteville *Carolinian*, a report of a portion of Gov. Vance's speech at that place. We defer any comments upon the speech until we receive a full and more complete account of it. The part before us, however, we commend to our readers. It is a plain, honest, straight-forward exposition, as Gov. V. would say, of "the naked truth" on the question discussed. We shall have a full report of the speech in a day or two.

From Florida.

A great battle is said to be daily impending at Baldwin, Florida. The enemy was said to be advancing on our forces in two columns about thirty thousand strong.

TELEGRAPHIC.

REPORTS OF THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress in the year 1863, by J. S. THRASHER, in the Clerk's office of the District Court of the Confederate States for the Northern District of Georgia.

From the Rappahannock, Richmond and Plymouth.

RICHMOND, April 22.

The Yankee gunboats have left Rappahannock river. Before leaving, three hundred men landed at Bowlware's wharf, and destroyed five hundred bushels of corn, and burnt the farm house.

The order for the removal of the Second Auditor's office to Montgomery has been countermanded this forenoon.

Brig. Gen. Russell, who commanded the post at Plymouth, was twice summoned to surrender but refused compliance, when the Confederates charged and gained the inner works, the Yankees threw down their arms. Number captured now reported twenty five hundred, exclusive of negroes. Among the guns taken is a two hundred pounder.

From Gen. Forrest, Richmond, Fort Pillow, Europe, &c.

RICHMOND, April 22.

The second occupation of Paducah by the Confederates, proved to be a mere raid for plunder by two hundred men. They took away a number of horses and considerable plunder.

Several guns captured by Forrest at Fort Pillow, were spiked before falling into his hands.

A letter from Hon. James M. Mason to Gov. Smith, states that the requisite amount for the statue of Jackson has been raised by the English Association.

The outstanding amount of Treasury notes, five dollars and under, is about seventy-five millions. The clerks of the First Auditor's Bureau are packing up their books and papers, preparatory to removal to Montgomery next week. It is believed now, that Tappahannock or Port Royal will be the base of Burnside's cooperative movements against Richmond.

From the Army of Northern Virginia.

ORANGE C. H., April 22.

Observations from Clark's mountain, disclose no new change in the yankee camps. It is reported that the enemy begin to day moving up their rear preparatory to an advance. Nothing going on in our front indicating an immediate advance. Roads dry and hard, and weather beautiful.

From the Trans-Mississippi.

MOBILE, April 22.

On Wednesday, Wirt Adams repulsed fifteen hundred Federals near Mechanicsville, Miss. Loss not stated.

From the North and Shreveport.

ORANGE C. H., April 23.

The New York Herald of the 20th, contains an account of the Shreveport affair, acknowledging a loss of two thousand and the yankee calvalry routed; acknowledges also that the full news was suppressed.

Western and Northern News.

DALTON, April 23.

Northern dates to the 21st received. At New York on the 20th, New Orleans papers of the 16th reported Banks' headquarters at Natchitoches.—The rebels were burning all the cotton on Red river and Ouachita.

In a skirmish with the rebel cavalry near Shreveport, we had some wounded; another slight skirmish occurred near Natchitoches, on Wednesday without result.

The Chicago Journal of the 20th says, the day after the disaster to the 13th army corps, Gen. Corse engaged and defeated the enemy, capturing two thousand prisoners and twenty cannon.

The guerrillas along the river declare that they will not allow Northern men to work the abandoned plantations. They recently made a raid on a plantation near Tensas, La., capturing a large number of negroes and mules, and killing Mr. Rollison and Mr. Mattern, after making them dig their own graves.

Cincinnati dates to the 20th, say, a dispatch from Cattleburg, Ky., of the 19th, says, Captain Patrick arrived with one hundred prisoners captured at Paintsville. Hodges' rebel brigade attacked our forces at Paintsville, on Tuesday, but were repulsed. Col. Gillespie pursued and surprised them at Half Mountain, capturing seventy prisoners and property, together with a wagon train. The rebels were commanded by Cols. Clay and Prentice and Maj. Johnson. Col. Clay is among the prisoners. Brig. Gen. Prince is ordered to the command of the District of Cairo, Paducah and Columbus.

At New York on the 20th, cotton was firmer and higher. Gold 177¾.

[SECOND DISPATCH.]

DALTON, April 23.

The enemy's cavalry captured twenty-four of our cavalry near Spring Place, and killed the Lieutenant in command. Yesterday, Wheeler hearing of it, attacked Col. Ross, who made a dash on our pickets' front, at Tunnel Hill, at daylight this morning, which resulted in the capture of thirty horses, and the killing of fifteen men. The enemy are reported quite active at Cleveland.

More Good News from the Trans-Mississippi.

DEMOPOLIS, April 23.

A dispatch from Brigadier Gen. Wirt Adams, dated Yazoo City, April 22d, says, a section of artillery and a detachment of sharpshooters, captured that day a gunboat near that place, while lying near shore, driving the men from their guns and finally the crew from the boat. They removed her fine armament, eight twenty-four pounders, most valuable stores and then burnt her to the waters edge. A number of prisoners were taken and the crew killed.

Another dispatch dated Canton, the 22d, says, Taylor captured seven thousand prisoners, four hundred wagons, and nineteen pieces of artillery, in Louisiana. Two hundred and twelve federal prisoners captured by Forrest at Fort Pillow, and Colonel Ivans and Jackson from Florence, were brought here to-day.

Butler and the French.

PETERSBURG, April 24.

A truce boat from Butler communicated with the French steamer at City Point to-day, but tarried only ten minutes. It brought no prisoners. A French courier came immediately to Petersburg and hastened to Richmond. Great anxiety here to learn particulars.

From Wilmington.

WILMINGTON, April 22.

About 150 Yankees landed last night, in seven boats, at Masonboro' Sound, destroyed the State Salt Works, and carried off forty-seven operatives, all white.

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, April 27, 1864.

Mr. Stephens' Speech--Continued.

We agree with Mr. Stephens, that "our whole system of constitutional liberty rests upon principles established by our Anglo Saxon ancestors." In England, the right of personal security is a constitutional right, as here; the ordinary mode of arrest is by process of law, on oath, of probable cause, under warrants or orders, just as with us; and the difference imagined by Mr. Stephens, "that in England all rights and liberties were grants from the Crown to the Parliament, and through them to the people; while with us, all power originally belonged to the people, and essentially still resides with them; is rather a distinction than a difference; for in both cases, the power originally belongs to the sovereign, and in both cases the power is defined, explained and limited by the sovereign's action, through constitutional enactment.

Hence, analogies between this country and England are essentially to be looked for and expected, as without doubt the framers of the organic law on this point had looked to English action, and were served by it with precedent.

At this point Mr. Stephens falls into the lamentable error of defending Gov. Brown in that singular statement, that he was not aware that any sovereign in England had asked for the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, or that Parliament had ever conferred upon the Crown the power to make arrests. In justifying this statement, Mr. Stephens falls into an egregious error—the more unpardonable because it is an error by the Vice President of the nation, when attacking his own Government.

We have heretofore shown, and we now repeat, that oftimes in England, since the *settlement*, have English sovereigns asked for, and English Parliaments passed bills, suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus;* and the suspension has *expressly conferred on the crown* the power to make arrests. It is sufficient for our purpose to note the case of suspension of 1817, when, on the application of the Regent Prince George, the *habeas corpus* was suspended throughout the Realm. The bill "enabled his majesty to secure and detain such persons as his majesty shall suspect are conspiring against his person and Government." Many persons were arrested, detained and held by order of the king, without any other process of law; and on an effort in Parliament to instruct a committee to enquire into these detentions, the motion was negatived, upon the ground that the Secretary of State had the authority to arrest and hold, without trial, because in his discretion the ends of justice would not be forwarded by immediate trial. Furthermore: for a more conclusive bestowal of the power of arrest, and for a more thorough protection to all persons making arrests, bills of indemnity were passed, accompanying these suspensions of the *habeas corpus*.

Mr. Stephens would do well to take down to Milledgeville the 36th volume of the Parliamentary Debates, where he will find the matters we have stated: and by reference to previous volumes of the same publication, he will find that both he and Gov. Brown will inspire some wonder in English circles, when their extraordinary statements shall reach the public men of Great Britain.

In England, as here, there were always found opposers to the suspension—There, as here, the suspension was considered to be "a limitation of the freedom of the people:" an "attack on the constitution"—it was compared to "*lettres de cachet*," and such like. But the leading statesmen, the large majorities of Parliament, in critical times, always assumed the responsibility for the public good. In 1817, the celebrated civilian Dr. Phillimore, declared it a "debt of justice due to the necessary security of the lives and properties of the citizens;" that there, "was not but one reign (James the Second,) since its enactment, during which no suspension had taken place, and the principles of liberty were never so well understood."

Other able statesmen supported it, on the principle that ordinary laws were sufficient for ordinary times; their object being to punish crime for example; but that in extraordinary dangers, this measure was necessary for precaution; it being always proper, as regarded the State, to arest an evil rather than struggle with it.

The last point we propose to notice, is Mr. Stephens' citations of individual cases of hardship. This is arguing from the possible abuse, and may be applied to the vesting of any power. By the same process of reasoning Mr. Stephens might with equal propriety argue against the system of arrests by magisterial warrants. How many hard cases are there of arrests by justices of the peace? How many harrassing acts of injustice—how many wrong findings of juries? Mr. Stephens has only to recur to his book of briefs to upset any judicial system, if the liability to its abuse be sufficient reason against it.

It is no more to be considered that Government officers—the enrolling officer, his superior, the controlling officer of conscription, the Secretary of War, the President—to all of whom an appeal lies in the individual instance to which Mr. Stephens cited, would practise oppression and do wrong, than it is to be feared that judges, jurors and courts would. To alarm the people with such apprehension, was the resort of a desperate necessity.

In conclusion, on this point, we fully recognize the great privilege of the writ of *Habeas Corpus*—a sacred writ of right—*a Magna Carta*. We look upon its suspension as only to be justified by extreme necessity, when the liberties of the people are clearly to be preserved, rather than endangered, by its suspension. But of the Congressional right by the Constitution to suspend it, when invasion or rebellion jeopard the public safety, we consider unquestionable; and when suspended, the power of arrest may be invested in the Head of the Government.

We shall only now point out how guarded has Congress been in the act of suspension, and how careful the Government has been in the exercise of the powers bestowed, to make our notice of Mr. Stephens complete; and we are content to let his speech, with our comments, be fairly judged by the people of North Carolina.

Mr. Stephens' Speech--Concluded.

In closing our review of Mr Stephens' speech, we undertake to show that the late act suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, more effectually guards the rights of the citizen, than Mr. Stephens' plan proposes; and indeed, that it imposes such complete check upon arbitrary power, that there is not a possibility of oppression to grow out of it, without exposure and punishment.

First: The suspension is temporary and does only extend at the farthest, to ninety days after the meeting of the next Congress.

Second: It does not, as in England, provide an indemnity for the acts committed under it, but manifestly leaves to an arrested party full legal remedy for any and every act of injustice. It not only does this by withholding indemnity, but it does not even prevent the issue of the writ of *habeas corpus*. At first we thought it did; but we now concur with Judge Pearson, that it simply abeys or ceases proceedings after the return is made *according to the form prescribed by Congress*. So that the case will proceed from the point at which it stopped, so soon as the suspension is removed; and thereupon, the party injured will be remitted to his remedy against all concerned.

It not only does this, but it limits and defines the cases in which the suspension is to occur, all of them being cases involving the very safety of the nation—as treason, conspiracies to overthrow the Government, to assist the enemy, to incite insurrection of slaves, desertions and encouragement thereof, attempting to avoid military service. These are the cases—most of them—and in this last, the party claiming exemption has an appeal from subordinate to superior officers; and the subordinate, besides his civil liability, risks being peremptorily dismissed, if he perpetrates injustice.

Not only so, but it requires the appointment of civil Magistrates—Commissioners—who sit like judges, with similar obligations and responsibilities, to give the speediest investigation to cases of persons arrested, in order that they may be discharged if improperly arrested, or tried in due course of law.

Now examine Mr. Stephens' construction. By it, not the President, but a venal, malicious prosecutor, by a false oath before a corrupt or ignorant magistrate—for there are such, as there are always bad persons among members of any class—may arrest a citizen on any of the cases presented by the act: the suspension removes the privilege of giving bail, and the party is held in prison to the next term of the court before he can get a hearing. Instead of the liberty of the citizen being placed in the keeping of the head of the Government, with all its responsibilities, for a careful protection, by Mr. Stephens, it is committed to the keeping of the multitude of civil magistrates through the land; many of whom are ignorant and irresponsible. Even in this case we should not apprehend great danger, for we have great faith that enlightened public sentiment would prevent oppression. But of the two, the citizen is much more protected by Mr. Stephens.

In addition to the guards provided by the law, the instructions from the Department still more securely guard the citizen from injustice. By these instructions, commissioners are at once appointed, the Department commanders are required to notify these commissioners promptly of arrests in their departments. They will at once examine the case. If they find sufficient ground for detention, they will certify to the Government this fact, and the party will be released. If they find otherwise, they are required to transmit the evidence, and then the Government decides whether longer detention be made or not.

In military cases, in all instances the Department has sought to have the decisions of Courts upon the vexed questions: and in this State it has consented to postpone the enrollment, or rather the conscription of certain cases, until the regular term of the Supreme Court, in order to avoid collision with the State Government and to have the decision of a full court.

To any impartial mind, it would seem clear that no liberty of the citizen is jeoparded by this act: and that the political effort to draw Brown to make party capital out of it, is gratuitous; and Mr. Vice President Stephens, has made a most unwise move in having been a party to this proceeding. The previous dignified Mr. Stephens, his character, rose well above all his late official relation to the Confederate Government, make his present course painful to his friends, as they dread reasons to look to him for a better example.

We should not have given this speech that elaborate notice we have, but for other subtle which Mr. Holden and his partizans are making of it in this State, and it is the more unfortunate for Mr. Stephens, that his friends cannot extricate him from this embarrassing and damaging association.

A Confederate picket, on the Rapidan, lately called out to the Yankee picket opposite, to know who was in command of the finest army on the planet" now. "Gen. Grant," was the answer. "Why did you bring him here?" asked the Confederate. "Oh," replied the Yankee, "you see, Gen. Grant was getting a little too popular to please Mr. Lincoln, and so he sent him here to get Gen. Lee to take him down a little.

"Practice against Profession."—The Kinston Arrests.

On the morning of the 16th of April, there appeared in the *Daily Progress* of this city, the following editorial, for which the editor of that paper claims the responsibility:

"MILITARY OPPRESSION.—We learn that there "are from twenty to thirty citizens now under "arrest at Kinston. No one of them have been "arrested on "oath" or "affirmation," and a speedy trial is denied them. They were arrested by military order and are held by military order, and while some of them have been for many weeks in prison, not the slightest disposition is manifested to give them a hearing. We do not know one of these men and have no special interest in them. If they are guilty of any offense against the government we insist on their being speedily tried and summarily punished, but if not guilty, let them be at once released. These men are citizens of the State and have a right to demand justice at the hands of the State authorities. What has Gov. Vance done or what is he doing to give these men a hearing? Surely the military authorities have no authority to hold them under the Act suspending the writ of *habeas corpus*, for that promises every man arrested a speedy hearing of his case. Has Gov. Vance asked, or rather has he demanded that these men have a speedy hearing?"

Now this paper professes an ardent devotion to the Southern cause; boasts of its sacrifices in its behalf, and wonders how we or any other person could distrust its loyalty. We have again and again replied to these lavish and profuse pledges and professions, by the publication of various species of articles; some of them the embodiment of foolish thoughtlessness; some the marked and distinct productions of political party purpose, which at times rises above the interest of the nation and controlls the head and heart of this *Professor of patriotism*. At other times we have quoted from its columns its own editorials, and the communications of others, which were criminally seditious and treasonable, well calculated to give the enemy "aid and comfort," and from which the enemy did preach hope to our invaders. Of this class, (the last,) is the article we comment upon to-day.

Take the time of its publication. It was just on the eve of an important movement—a movement hazardous in its undertaking, destined to be full of peril in its prosecution, and fraught with the most vital consequences to the State and to the Confederacy in its consummation: being no less than a movement for the rescue of Eastern North Carolina—the recovery of our occupied Towns—the re-occupation of our Sound waters, the capture of Hatteras and Roanoke Island, and the restoration to our exiled refugees of their homes and property. We had been in possession of the fact of this projected move for some time; and so anxious have we been to withdraw the public attention from it, that we preferred rather to risk some creation of alarm, by intimating a danger to this place, rather than by premature allusion impede or hinder in the slightest degree this contemplated enterprise. About the 16th of April, or a little before, this movement began to be suspected and talked of; then of all times was the moment for a public paper friendly to the cause to remain hushed, on all matters which might embarrass the officers in charge of this undertaking.

Now what does the *Progress* do? It draws the public attention to numerous arrests at the Head Quarters of the officer in charge of this enterprise. It undertakes to decide on the merits of these arrests, and pronounces them "a military oppression." It alleges that a "speedy trial is denied" to these parties, that they are detained for weeks by military order, and "not the slightest disposition is manifested to give them a trial."

Against whom are these charges made, at the important juncture to which we have alluded? Why against Gen. Hoke, the officer who was planning the deliverance of our State from the invader, and who was about to peril his life to accomplish it! Against the officer who was marking his love of liberty and his loyal patriotism, by the very dangers he was assuming!—the officer who was on the spot, confronting the enemy who knew what was needed to preserve the plans from detection—what was required to shut up the avenues of communication with the enemy, that his intentions might transpire unmolested!

By whom were the charges made? By the editor of the *Progress*, at a distance in the rear of some hundred miles, who is as wholly ignorant of the facts as he is careless in their statement. What was the probable effect of this publication? If it reached the enemy, its effect would be to excite his suspicions; to awaken his vigilance, to arouse him energy, and to increase his preparations. It is a singular fact, that just about the very time that by rapid transmission it might pass to Newburn, say by the 19th, the enemy *did*, and off his reinforcements from Newbern to Plymouth, as also his gunboats, and what might have been a surprise, became a battle, with a loss of about two hundred men. Whether the enemy were warned in time by this press or not, we do not know: but this was the effect of the publication.

But there was another, and still more sinister object, at least probable, from this publication; and that was to excite the popular prejudice against Gen. Hoke, the leader of the expedition, to take place, and to weaken the confidence of the soldiers in him. Is not this charged with military oppression," impliedly, with arresting citizens without cause; with inflicting on them unnecessary confinements, and with manifesting not the slightest disposition to give them a hearing." Suppose this were true. General Hoke would be a criminal wholly unworthy of the public confidence, and justly obnoxious to disgrace and punishment. Suppose the people or soldiers were made to believe it true, what other effect could there be than to rob him of the public esteem, and afflict him with the public censure?

All this the editor of the *Progress* has sought to do, in the very moment of his most critical responsibility. What is the fair inference from such conduct? Why, clearly, either that the *Progress* is so ignorant of the nature consequences of its matter to be responsible, or else that it is opposed to the interests of the country, while professing to favor them; or that it seeks to serve a narrow-minded partizanship, careless and indifferent of what pernicious consequences the service may engender. We incline to this latter opinion; for we find an inquiry—"what has Gov. Vance done or what is he doing to give these men a hearing?" It is a dangerous though petty and contemptible trick against Gov. Vance—dangerous, for the reasons we have stated; and the more so, because it invites another State interference with the Confederate Government. The people of North Carolina are by this time satisfied, that the interests of her citizens are safe with Gen. Hoke as with any other man.

But the worst of this whole matter is, that *the charge was utterly untrue*. The prisoners were arrested on proper suspicions, by virtue of a law pronounced by the judiciary of the land to be constitutional. Therefore there was no oppression. Gen. Hoke has long since reported their cases to Gen. Bragg, the Commissioner, but this officer can only act on a report from Gen. Pickett, the commander of the Department. Gen. Pickett has received a report from Gen. Hoke, but he has been in the midst of important operations—preparing to take a new assignment of duty; and to turn over this Department to another; an event just now being accomplished.

During this time, and immediately upon the cases being called to the attention of Gov. Vance, he interposed and has been using every effort to have the cases investigated. The men in the mean time are confined, because important measures prohibit their being heard—just as a prisoner on a civil warrant sometimes awaits for a year a trial because witnesses cannot be procured. Now did the *Progress* care anything for the men? Not a stiver. It was another of the low efforts of Mr. Holden to benefit himself.

In conclusion, we make another enquiry: Where else, under "any planet," would a man be allowed to survive and breathe fresh air, who thus heedlessly, if not wickedly interposes obstacles, impediments and hindrances to the proper prosecution of our military movements. Talk about the suspension of the *habeas corpus*. It is mere water gruel. It hasn't strength enough to nourish a cat. If our counsel were taken, there would not be a similar ill-timed and wicked publication in the land, till this war is over. The best men of the nation are in the army, and for ourselves we are willing to trust our all in their hands.

See-Saw.

As the cause goes up, Mr. Holden goes down. Had he "put up" himself last fall, when he denied his intention to do so, he might perchance have had a turn-up; for then there was gloom, despondency, desertion, distress, disaster in the nation. Then would have been the time for his end of the plank to have mounted.

But now the picture is reversed. The soldiers have re-enlisted, Congress has passed strong laws, the country has aroused to energetic action, victory thunders in every gale and sings in every breeze; Kirby Smith, Forrest, Lee, Buford, have opened the last campaign of the war with undimmed and uninterrupted success; and its glorious triumphs borne to us from the distant confines of the Confederacy, the "military oppressor," Gen Hoke, sends back from Eastern North Carolina a greeting of victory as satisfactory as the best.

Our cause is up, and kicks the beam, while Mr. Holden, loaded and weighed down with political sin, sits in the dirt, on the down side of the plank, and his turn to go up seems never a coming. This is a poor game, this play of See-Saw, when the other end is always up.

"Right and Left Bowers."

The Newbern *Times*, by Joy, the Yankee, and the Raleigh *Progress*, may be said to be the "right and left bowers" of the self made candidate. In this state of the case, there seems to be a higher trump out than the bowers. We can't explain it; but unquestionably Gen. Hoke is the highest trump in hand, and from all we can hear, the right bower of Mr. Holden—the knave Joy—is in a fair way of being captured, or of being run out of the game. If the right bower is taken, there will be no more difficulty about the left. This is a clear case of "military oppression;" this taking Mr. Holden's highest trump, by following suit. But we can't help it; men who will play at *euchre* and shuffle their own cards, have no right to complain of their hands.

MARRIAGE OF A GALLANT OFFICER.

Major says the Atlanta *Intelligencer*, that Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Reynolds, of the 30th North Carolina regiment, was married on Wednesday, 30th of March last, to the beautiful accomplished Miss Mason Bell, at the residence of her mother in Montgomery, Alabama.

Col. Reynolds commanded the 30th N. C., at the Battle of Chickamauga, and greatly distinguished himself there. He captured several pieces of artillery, two stands of colors, and a number of prisoners. After a brilliant career on the battle field, he has been captured by one of Alabama's fairest daughters, and through fear of condign punishment, has taken the oath of allegiance to his conqueror. We trust that his chains may ever be wrought of flowers, and that through his unalloyed happiness may learn

"Two souls with but a single thought,
Two hearts that beat as one."

Good News.

Our columns teem, this morning, with accounts of the most cheering victories and successes. Kirby Smith has duplicated his grand Shreveport exploit, by an equally grand affair at Wansfield, Louisiana, on the 8th inst., at which the enemy's loss is put at eight thousand men, thirty-five guns, one hundred wagons, and two thousand prisoners. Col. Powers made a brilliant dash right into Port Hudson on the 7th, captured a gun and thirty prisoners, and killed and wounded ninety Yankees; his own loss being only three wounded.

The Northern papers received yesterday, give full and glorious confirmation of the victory and capture of Fort Pillow; their papers making our victory even more complete than did our own accounts.

The fall of Fort Pillow is followed by the news of an attack by our forces on Fort Halleck, at Columbus, Kentucky. The Northern papers give confused accounts of the matter, and admit a doubt as to the success in taking the Fort, but the probabilities are that we did succeed.

At the same time that this attack was going on at Columbus, Kentucky, our forces were pressing the Yankees at Paducah, and had renewed their demand for the surrender of the fort. A dispatch from the West, in the Northern papers, says:

From Paducah, we learn that the Confederates have again possession of that place and yesterday (15th) renewed the attack on the Federal forces stationed there. Colonel Hicks, in command of the fort, had been summoned to surrender, but declined to accede to the demand.

The Northern papers have no news from Grant's army—not a word. This is ominous. It is evident that they are awaiting for the clash of arms between the confronting armies. Any moment may bring it.

And here in North Carolina we greet our Western heroes with also a glorious victory. On Monday last, Brig. Gen. Hoke moved by land upon Plymouth, on the Roanoke river, while Commander Cook proceeded down the river on the gunboat built at or near Halifax. We have not sufficient particulars to know when the attack upon the enemy's forts and batteries commenced, but we have reliable information that the forts and batteries at Plymouth were taken, also a large number of prisoners, many of them negroes, who will be restored to their owners in time to make crops this year for their masters, and other valuable captures were also made. See dispatches under Telegraphic head. It is reported that all of the enemy's batteries but one had been taken, up to the last advices, and that our gunboat had passed out into the waters of the Sound.

This is indeed glorious news, and we are prepared to hear now of the capture of Newbern, Washington, and the clearing of the Yankees from Roanoke Island and the waters of the Sound.

We learn that Gen. Corse's brigade, below Kinston, made a reconnoitering expedition towards Newbern, a day or two ago, and went near enough to take observation of the old town. But, *their* time had not come yet, and they must, therefore, bide a wee. We shall hear, from that direction probably very soon.

Now, by St. George, the work goes bravely on."

From the Rapidan and Chattanooga the news still is that all is quiet, but movements are being made by the enemy which indicate that the usage of battle will soon be given at both points. In the meantime, while Grant is ostentatiously collecting his masses to assail Richmond, the time for Breckinridge and Buckner's advance into Kentucky is at hand. Gen. Lee can take care of Grant, Gen. Johnston of Sherman, and Kirby Smith of Banks. Thus holding the enemy's forces wide apart, the centre is open and Kentucky is exposed to our grasp.

If an advance should be attempted by the enemy from Knoxville, Longstreet at Bristol would show the enemy that he was not as near Richmond as their enterprising scouts have reported.

So cheering and inspiring are the news and the prospect, that even the weak-kneed may take courage and begin to believe that the day of our deliverance is at hand.

EAST TENNESSEE.—Many despondent person of the opinion (says the Charlottesville *Chronicle*) that East Tennessee is forever lost to the Confederacy, simply because its territory is at present occupied by the enemy. This, in one sense of the word, amounts to nothing. After a few hard *blows*, we are of the opinion that East Tennessee will again be ours. We feel satisfied that the Federal army, under Schofield, in that section of country, is far inferior to ours, commanded by Gens. Buckner, Ransom, Vaughan, Jones and others. They are still in East Tennessee and at the proper time will speak for themselves.

Among a batch of Northern newspapers sent to us by a friend near the enemy's lines in Dixie, we see that the Yankees are stirring quite a gloss fication over the following statement:

Judge Pearson of North Carolina, in a case of *habeas corpus* recently tried before him, decided that the recent act of Congress to conscript persons who have furnished substitutes for the war, is unconstitutional.

A letter received by a gentleman in Richmond from one of the largest and most respectable commercial houses in Liverpool, dated 1 March 12, says: "There is a report to-day that Maximilian is to acknowledge the Confederacy, and France will back him, if the Federals threaten war."

All Candidate announcements must be accompanied by the cash, in order to secure insertion in this paper.

A member of Congress from Tennessee, has now in his pocket the draft of a bill which he proposes to introduce and urge, providing that will make application to the State, and file a declaration of intention to become citizens, shall have been paying in specie all taxes and assessments of the people. The bill provides that every man shall be compelled under the penalty of death to report the amount of his estate and the person and family of the applicant the sum of profit he has made beyond what he had accumulated, which is to be regarded as a loan collected for the government, but repaid or credited to the person loaning. Those who refused to raise their prices upon the passage of the Currency bill, to meet the depreciation of the money, and continued the same prices after the one third was deducted, are particularly provided for. Such a law is badly needed, and we believe would tend to a greater extent to reduce the present exhorbitant prices than anything that could be devised.

The Malcontents.

We are so concerned, as a cotemporary has remarked, in what is passing, and what is to come, that we have little time to turn aside to pass judgment upon individuals. We all feel that the merits or demerits of a particular man are of little consequence, save as they bear on the great question of our deliverance. We do not care to build up or pull down this or that statesman, nor can we become deeply interested in the repetition of the old tricks or intrigues by which, in former times, a partisan manœuvred to become Senator or President. We have not even time to be disgusted with such things; for we are all pondering another question, whether, in the great trial of strength in Northern Virginia, victory shall result for us or the enemy. This is what now concerns us. Are we to have a great Confederate victory, followed by peace and independence, or shall a Federal success bring to us renewed trials and suffering, and a prolongation of the war? And so all our thoughts, and hopes, and prayers, go with our armies and the men who are guiding our cause. The politicians who, in times past, have figured in our conventions, shaped issues, practised wiles and strategy, must stand aside and wait till after the war. Until then the country will be too busy to attend to their performances.

And yet, it is hard for men to give up a trade, or for "old dogs to learn new tricks." Political schemers are proverbially restless men. The presence of a great war, with all its countless misery and anguish, does not change their old nature or repress its manifestations. And so we have, in certain quarters, men of "giant" intellect, so-called statesmen, who have never framed a great measure or contributed a single valuable suggestion to the cause of this revolution; men whose talent consists, it seems, in standing off and criticising what others are doing, busily employed in denouncing the late action of Congress and the Executive.

The public judgment and the pen of history will have a word for the malcontents who, when called upon to exhibit *their* laurels, can only point to some wretched speech, or letter, or message, or editorial, in which they endeavored, not to stimulate the courage and endurance of the people, but to excite faction, distrust in the Administration, division in the ranks, and thus pave the way for the South, not merely to offer peace to our insolent foe, after victory, great or small, but, with or without a victory, to crouch at Lincoln's feet, and entreat forgiveness at least for those who have done all in their power to aid him in his infamous work. The editors and politicans now engaged in this work will be held to a strict accountability, and they will meet the just scorn of the country they have outraged. The contempt now felt for Holden will be but a foreshadowing of what they may expect.

Some negroes having found a shell, near the residence of Mr. Hawley, on Topsail Sound, N. C., which had been fired at the blockade running steamer Dee, removed the cap and fuse. Mr. Wm. Batson applied a lighted twig to the powder, to see if the shell would explode, and was terribly wounded as the result of his experiment. Both legs had to be amputated, and he was besides severely burned and lacerated on the arms, face and elsewhere.

Raleigh Market.

CORRECTED WEEKLY,

BY J. W. ROGERS, GROCER.

Raleigh, April 23, 1864.

BACON	$5.50 lb.		
BEEF	by the quarter, none.		
BEESWAX	4.50@5.00 lb.		
BUTTER	8.00@9.00 lb.		
CHICKENS	3.00 to 3.50		
CORN	30.00 bu.		
FLOUR	3.50@4.00		
FODDER	275.00 @ 300		
HAY	20.00 @ 25.00		
IRON	15.00 @ 20.00		
LARD	7.00 @ 8.00		
MOLASSES	40.00 @ gal.		
NAILS	5.00@6.00		
PEAS	30.00 @ bu.		
PORK	none.		
POTATOES	20.00 @ 25.00		
RICE	15.00 @ 20.00		
SALT	1.00 @ lb		
SUGAR	40.00@42.00		
TALLOW	3.50@4.00		
Bacon	6.00 to 7.00	Lime	3.00@4.00
Beeswax	2.00@2.50	Nails	5.00@6.00
Butter	6.00 to 7.00	Pork	3.50@4.00
Bagging	1.75@2.12½	Molasses	25.00@30.00
Coffee	15.00@20.00	Onions	2.00@3.00
Dried Fruit	1.00@1.50	Peaches—Dried	15@20
Eggs	2.00@3.00	Rice	12.00@15.00
Flour	3.00@3.50	Soap	12.00@15.00
Feathers	3.00@3.50	Starch	10.00@12.00
Grain	Corn 2.00@2.50	Salt	30.00@35.00
Wheat	3.00@3.50	Sugar	40.00@42.00
Oats	1.00@1.50	Tea	100.00@120.00
Peas	1.00@1.50	Tobacco	3.00@4.00
Rye	2.00@2.50	Wool	6.00@7.00
Hay	2.00@2.50	Whiskey	20.00@25.00
Hides—Green	3.00@4.00	Brandy	30.00@40.00
Lard	3.00@4.00	Salt	35.00@40.00
Leather—Upper	17.50	Tallow	3.50
Sole	15 to 17.50	Wool	6

THE CONFEDERATE.

WEDNESDAY, April 27, 1864.

Mr. Stephens' Speech---Continued.

Mr. Holden is engaged in using Mr. Stephens speech for political capital in North Carolina; and this devolves upon us the necessity of commenting on it. The enquiry forces itself on every mind—why Mr. Stephens, instead of making this unfair attack upon the Government, of which he is an important functionary, did not attend the session of Congress, and influence by his counsel and presence a wiser and better legislation? His answer is, that he was prostrated upon a sick bed and not able to do so. Then it would have more accorded with the official dignity and propriety of the Vice President, to wait until in a proper forum he could give his influence to a modification or repeal of the obnoxious measures. And the distinguished personal attributes of Mr. Stephens will not shield him from just imputation for thus thrusting his jealousies and discontents upon the country, which savor more of factious opposition, than sound, wise and patriotic suggestion.

We propose to take up Mr. Stephens' review of the *habeas corpus* act:

By his own showing, he is eminently unfit to criticise the necessity or propriety of this measure; for he says—"I was not in Richmond when the act passed; I heard none of the discussions, and knew none of the reasons assigned, either by the President in asking it, or the members or Senators who voted for it." Now, if the President were advised of the immediate necessity of enrolling and putting in the service a material increase of force; that the emergency which demanded this was no less than the preservation of the national capital, the archives and stores of the Government, and the strategic importance of the position: If he were further advised that to make this material increase of force it would be necessary to draw upon the principals of substitutes, promptly and speedily: If this advice came from the war office, being the result of consultation by the military chiefs of the army: If his law adviser had communicated to him that the act to enforce this military service was right and constitutional, but that individual judges could control the question sufficiently long before adjudications could be obtained by Courts of supreme jurisdiction, and thus that the law could be thwarted, and the cause imperilled: If the President were further advised, that the law so provided, that men not liable could not be taken, because appeal was given to them from subordinate to superior officers, who were men of integrity themselves liable to supervision: If Mr. Vice President Stephens had known that the President was thus advised, and for himself could see that some measure stronger and above the ordinary legal resorts was necessary, would he have seen in all this emergency requiring extraordinary action?

If to this were added the manifestations of fierce agitation, in a State which was invaded, and an important part of which was occupied by the enemy; which agitation, in terms, denounced the war, denounced its further continuance, denounced the Government—calling it despotic and tyrannical, and alienating from it the hearts of the people—which agitation, in terms, proposed a Convention to negotiate with the enemy, outside and irrespective of the Government of the Confederacy; by which negotiation States were to be surrendered to the foe, and terms short of independence taken: Which agitation, in terms, announced the right of North Carolina to secede from the Confederacy when she should please, and threatened her purpose to do so: Which agitation was headed by chiefs of political parties, and high officers of the State, whose connection with it alarmed the loyal mind and threatened disturbance and bloodshed:—If the President were informed of all this, and more not yet published—something not yet born, yet in the womb, in embryo—something, *quick* and *instinct with life*, only attending the period of gestation to be born—which before August may be in the world; a thing to look upon and recognize:

If the President were informed of all this, does Mr. Stephens see nothing of emergency in it all, demanding remedial measures?—Mr. Stephens and Gov. Brown have shown—the last a culpable ignorance, the former a most confused learning—upon the subject of *habeas corpus* suspensions in England. With no war, no invasion, without half, aye, a tenth of the just necessity that we have, the English Parliament, on the call of the English sovereign, King, Regent and Queen, at different times, have passed suspension bills, the leading men of Great Britain, as we stated the other day, to whom we may now add Lords Sidmouth, Liverpool, Montrose, Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Canning and the celebrated civilian Dr. Phillimore,—all having supported and advocated it.

Thus have the most virtuous, eminent, patriotic men of England, worshippers of her constitution, at various periods established as precedents the suspension of the *habeas corpus*, as the preventer of national evil; and in all our reading we have yet to find one instance where individual oppression resulted.

We shall go on and show the great error of Mr. Stephens in his estimate of the *habeas corpus* in England and here; and we shall further show how strictly guarded against injury to citizens this act is.

NOTICED BY A GRAND JURY.—At the late Superior Court of Putnam county, the Grand Jurors thus pay their respects to the Governor in their general presentments;

It is with sincere regret that we have observed, of late, apparent disposition, on the part of the Executive of Georgia, to array the State against the General Government. Having full confidence in the integrity of the Confederate authorities and regarding the late action of Congress as fully justified by the necessities of the country, we feel assured that the present is no time for division and discord.

Mr. Stephens' Speech—Continued.

In this State, the general desire for internal tranquility during our great struggle, prompted a common acquiescence, without opposition, in Gov. Vance's re-election; who it is confessed on all hands has made a good officer, except that he has been a strict partisan—yielding to his conservative organization all the strength of his official influence.

Mr. Holden could not find it in his heart to permit this state of things to continue. Hence he began to agitate for a Convention, hoping that Gov. Vance would, as a loyal citizen, oppose it, and thus he might "put himself up for Governor." Gov. Vance *did* oppose it; the pretext was furnished; and he has "put up" himself in opposition to Gov. Vance.

After he did so, he was at a loss for a platform; more at a loss how to make an issue; and to such a desperate strait was he driven, that the *Progress* from time to time intimated that he might withdraw (which, by-the-by, would be the most sensible, as it certainly would be the most patriotic act of his life.) While he was in this perplexity, Mr. Vice President Stephens, emerging from his home, has made a speech; which, being a disaffected demonstration towards the Government, came admirably adapted to Mr. Holden's wants; and at once the image is presented of Mr. Holden clambering on to Mr. Stephens' platform; and Mr. Stephens, who has heretofore ever filled a post of dignity in the national eye, will from now till August, (unless something intervenes) be presented as the associate and Mentor of Mr. Holden and North Carolina agitation—the first appearance of Mr. S. in comedy. We are obliged, therefore, still further to comment on Mr. Stephens' speech.

Like all others who have opposed the Government in this war, not having themselves been in immediate contact with the sufferings and dangers it has imposed, Mr. Stephens has fallen far below the gravity of the occasion. He himself has not acquired the impression, and is therefore deficient in appreciation of the transcendent mortal struggle, for weal or woe, life or death, which the nation is now making. Thus unconscious, he addresses himself to the discussion as though he were debating before some Court of Probate in upper Georgia, the construction of a testament. But to his points:

First: He demands that the power of suspending the privilege of the *habeas corpus*, which he admits to be in Congress by the implication derived from the clause of the constitution—"The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it;" should be controlled by the other clauses which are restrictive of this power, and which he claims subordinate this clause to the restrictions they impose. These clauses are: First, "The right of the people to be secure in "their persons, houses, papers and effects, "against unreasonable searches, shall not be "violated; and no warrants shall issue but "upon probable cause, supported by oath or "affirmation, and particularly describing the "place to be searched and the persons or thing "to be seized."

And second: "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

Mr. Stephens claims that these clauses subordinate the former, and are to be recognized in the exercise of the power which the former conveys: whereas the very reverse is the truth. The clause of the constitution vesting the power to suspend the writ of *habeas corpus*, by such emphatic phraseology, controls and subordinates these other clauses, inasmuch as it is expressly intended to be an extraordinary measure for extraordinary emergency; while these other clauses relate to ordinary times, to merely ordinary legal process, when neither rebellion nor invasion jeopard the public safety.

Thus understood, they are intelligible and there is no conflict; but if the interpretation of Mr. Stephens be correct, then this extraordinary power conferred in the constitution on Congress, amounts to nothing more than a mere refusal of bail.

Let us look at it: A conspiracy is formed to subvert the Government by aiding an invading enemy. Numbers of citizens are suspected; the public safety is put in jeopardy; Congress has suspended the privilege of the *habeas corpus* and given authority to the Government to arrest and detain. Yet, according to Mr. Stephens, before Government can act, a prosecutor must appear; oath must be made; probable cause shown; a warrant from a Magistrate obtained; and after all this is done, the party is arrested and then, for the first time, the operation of the suspension is felt. In the language of Mr. Stephens—"The only effect is to deprive a person, after being legally confined, of the privilege of a discharge before trial by giving bail."

If this be sound reasoning, our ancestors employed themselves to very slight purpose in engrafting into the organic law the power of suspending the *habeas corpus*: for by a simple enactment, that in times of invasion and rebellion, men arrested for crime should not be admitted to bail, they would have covered the whole case. Indeed, by this construction, the exercise by Congress of the power to suspend the *habeas corpus*, does nothing more than extend in certain periods the list of non-bailable offences; and inasmuch as felonies capital are already non-bailable, this imposing power, bestowed in times of invasion or rebellion, would seem to be aimed only at lighter felonies and misdemeanors. If Mr. Stephens does not shrink instinctively from the conclusion of his own premises, then his mind is more under the influence of prejudice than we supposed.

But a very dangerous evil is hid under this view of Mr. Stephens—for by this, the effect would be to enable Justices of the Peace—ordinary Magistrates—on any body's oath, to deprive the citizen of liberty, by imprisoning and refusing him bail. Whereas by the proper construction of the constitution, when in times of great national peril it is necessary to anticipate and avert evil by extraordinary process, the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* is suspended, and authority is vested in the head of the Government to arrest and detain. The authority is thus given, because the evils to be prevented are political evils—State dangers—and the object is not to punish, but prevent; to guard not only the nation, but to save from self-destruction the misguided people themselves, by putting it out of their power to work mischief.

The proper view of this question is to be obtained from a stand point, whose elevation Mr. Stephens has wholly failed to attain.

"The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless," &c., implies some inherent Government power, resident in the sovereignty of the nation, which the constitution sought to restrict; and by the use of this "*negative pregnant*," a most logical method of affirmation, it does not confer a power, but only restricts its exercise to the cases of invasion or rebellion imperiling the public safety.

Thus considered, it "does (not) attempt to deprive persons of liberty without due process of law;" for it creates in the order of the President a process *due* to the extraordinary necessity. It does not annul the "right of the people to be secure in their persons against unreasonable seizures," for it seizes the most effective means to secure the people in the midst of great peril.

It does not destroy any such bulwark of personal liberty as that "no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation," for it legitimates the order of the Government as a warrant of so high a character that the causes of detention shall not be shown against it, the peril to the public safety being the emergency requiring and justifying this extraordinary attribution. Our view of the question will be sustained by appeal to English analogy, which we shall make in our next.

The *Progress*, receiving the *cue* from its master, who knows how to dictate to his "bond-servant," is having a perfect jubilation over the circular of Messrs. Bragg, Bledsoe, and others. We are content that they should enjoy the "hulla-baloo" they are endeavoring to raise over it—for it can hurt nobody. The fact that the *Confederate* newspaper establishment is the property of a joint-stock company, is well known here and in many parts of the State. No secret was ever made of it; for the securing of subscriptions to the stock of the company was a street affair, where men favorable to the enterprise were applied to for subscriptions. And the *Standard* and *Progress* have both been cognizant of the fact from the first. It is only with the hope to make a little political capital, that they are making this fuss over the circular—how obtained, if it was such a great secret, is for them to say.

But is there anything criminal, wrong or dangerous to the country, in the fact that the *Confederate* belongs to a joint stock company? If so, the *North Carolina Christian Advocate*, the *North Carolina Presbyterian*, the *Harbinger and Watchman* at Greensboro', and perhaps other papers in the State, must be dangerous concerns also—and their Editors "bond-servants," bound to obey the behests of their masters. Who believes either the one or the other? Nobody.

The great bluster of the *Standard* and *Progress* over this matter is sheer humbug, deception, and is not worthy of serious notice.

Attention! Girls and Boys!!

We are requested to announce that Mr. W. R. Hunter—"*The Children's Friend*"—will lecture to the Children of the city to-night at 7½ o'clock in the Lecture-Room of the Baptist church.

The public generally are invited to attend.

☞ The children will occupy the front seats.

The correspondent of the London Times, from New York, referring to the endorsement the Yankee press was giving to the report that Gov. Vance was not for secession, says, "Am I dreaming, or did I hear a fortnight ago from Gov. Vance, that he would rather fight for twenty years than consent to anything but full, final and irrevocable dissolution of the Union?" This sentiment is yet his.

A writer in the newspapers, speaking of Gen: Kirby Smith says: "though appointed from Florida, he is a native of Connecticut." That is not what the *Army Register* says—it sets him down as born in Florida, and appointed from Florida; so he is a lineal son of the South.

Ex-Governor Alston, of South Carolina, died on Thursday, last, the 7th instant, at his plantation on the Pee Dee.

FIRE.—We regret to larn that Mr. Wiley Morgan, Sr., in the eastern part of Rowan county, lost his wheat house by fire on Thursday last, believed to be the work of an incendiary. It is almost a ruinous loss, as it contained all his grain, tools, wagon and gear, salt, flaxseed, &c., &c., estimated to be worth at least $6,000.

COOKE'S BRIGADE.—Rev. Thad. L. Troy will make his next trip for Cooke's Brigade, leaving Newton on the 27th inst., and Salisbury on the 28th. He will promptly deliver all packages left between those places and Raleigh.

Henry Clay paid the following chaste and beautiful tribute to the fair: "Women are the Corinthian pillars that adorn and support society; the institutions that protect women throw a shield also around children—and, when women and children are provided for, man must be secure in his rights.

[For the Confederate.

Convention.

We see by the papers that a great deal has been said about the Convention proposed to be held in North Carolina, for what purpose we over this way (east of the Chowan river) cannot clearly conceive, unless it is for the purpose of preparing the way for reconstructing that Union from which a Convention was called for seceding from in 1861.

In all the communications upon the subject, it is clearly manifest that though there may exist in some parts of the State people who advocate such a measure, yet the general tone of the people condemn it, at least there are several able pens opposing it with arguments and a candor that we think will diminish the fever in a measure, and in connection with the efforts of Gov. Vance effectually "dead and bury it forever."

It has been remarked that the sentiment has gained ground in this part of the State, and is thought to be rapidly spreading itself amongst our people. It pains us to record such remarks. It seems indeed that all that is mean and traitorous and vile is charged upon the people in the first Congressional district. To listen to the false epithets that are applied to us, one would think this people a mass of corruption. Indeed, the opinion of us as expressed in the other parts of the State, reminds one of the "neutral ground" of the struggle of '76, where Andre was captured, and which was overrun by the "Cow Boys," "Donkers" and others, the vilest characters of the then struggling colonies. We seem to be looked upon as traders and sympathizers with our enemies; Union-loving, debased in all that makes men true patriots and loyal citizens of our struggling country.

It is almost unnecessary for a pure and virtuous character to assert its innocence of false charges. Yet there have been so many false and ridiculous charges against this patriotic people, that we will notice this remark and endeavor to convince erring people that they mistake, in supposing this people have any sympathy with any such institution as a Convention to prepare the way to bow the knee to the Lincoln *mis*-government. It is simply absurd, in the first place, that water and oil should mix. The nature of the two ingredients are so diametrically opposed, that you may stir them together and they will not mix. It is equally as absurd to suppose that people who have lost their slaves and other property and been subjected to the indignities and insults enumerated in that patriotic address of our Congress, can wish to treat with our enemies and desire to mix with them again in *union*, or join them in their horrible, cruel and inhuman war upon our own friends and brothers.

It would be a sweeping assertion to declare that there are none of this people Union in sentiment, or that do not advocate or wish to go back to the old Union—that there are none who advocate Convention. It is natural to refer to the times of '76. Let one read the history of that struggle for independence, and witness the conflicting sentiments—the traitorous designs which those patriots combatted and conquered, and he will be struck with the parrallel which our country has afforded since this war began. Even in the halls of the continental Congress; among the highest in the land; from the private soldier to the high officer; from the poor citizen to the aristocratic child of wealth, there were sentiments of disunion; acts of disloyalty to the cause—treachery everywhere, and it seemed at times that the cause of the mighty struggle depended on that immortal man who ruled the destinies of our country. Such has been the case with our country and is even so now over here. There are men who are Union, and who would see our cause betrayed and even given up—would have us go back to a Union with men with whom we have no sympathy. But it must not be inferred that all who happen to be exposed to the aggressions of our enemies are actuated by such feelings. That because a few voluntarily take a detestable oath and trade with the enemy that all are disloyal, that the people as mass are not sound on the question of rights and liberty—the cause of the South.

There are men of sound sense, good judgment and unsullied patriotism, and we venture to assert that, taking the circumstances in which we are placed, the influences that have been brought to bear upon us, the troubles and trials we have been subjected to—for this people have not only been warred upon by the enemy, but what is perhaps worse, have to endure coldness and neglect and abuse and slander from our friends, curses for our misfortunes; and we believe it to be true that this people, are as true and patriotic as some parts of our state and perhaps more so. This people we believe we can safely say, desire no Convention—if we understand them aright, they have had enough of Convention. That they desire and pray for peace is undeniable; and who does not want peace? peace on honorable terms, a recognition of our rights? A sage of '76 exclaimed to the faint and croaking, "men cry peace, peace," and there is no peace," and we never will have peace—nay do not desire peace, unless it is a guarrantee of the peaceful enjoyment of our rights. What can be gained by calling a Convention? Do we desire to withdraw from the South, go out of the Confederacy and join Lincoln? or is it a step to try to be neutral? Kentucky tried neutrality, and we see her now held by the bayonets of our enemy. We could not form an independent State government. One State cannot exist alone and unaided by the rest of her sister States, and no one State, we apprehend, has any desire to try it by herself. Why then should we have a Convention in North Carolina? We hear of no such movement in any other State of the South. It is only in this state that any cause for a Convention seems to exist. Our good old State has sent forth her gallant sons, and many of her bravest and best have bit the dust. She has exerted herself to an extent that commands the admiration of the South, and will command that of the world. She has suffered much and will continue to suffer. What then, shall we cease to exert, call our men from the field, submit to a Convention the task of agitating and stirring up dissatisfaction, palsying and unnerving the strong arms and stout hearts of those who are fighting for us, confessing our government on whom we have placed the responsibility of conducting this war to a unsuccessful determination, and render abortive our attempts to maintain our rights? Why do we need a Convention just at this time? We had a Convention in '61. It was called for the purpose of taking the State out of the old Union and joining our sister States of the South, with whom we are identical in interest and feeling. Its act was the act of the people in their supreme sovereign capacity. There was then a necessity for a Convention. It was necessary for the State to choose one side of the dilemma. She chose it, and united her destiny with that of the Confederate States. Does any such necessity exist now? We are like we have been for three years, encircled by an enemy who was to crush us in three months; who has repudiated the laws and usages of enlightened, christian, chivalrous warfare, and descended to the age of barbarism and imitates the arrogance, inhumanity and cruelty of the proselytes of Romish superstition in the "dark ages." Our Government perhaps, has in some measure been entrusted with powers that may not be exactly compatible with the spirit of the Constitution. That should be used with prudence and delicacy and only in extreme and urgent cases. The writ of *habeas corpus*, our bulwark of liberty, only to be suspended "when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it," has been suspended in certain cases named in the bill. The wisdom of Congress has decided that the public safety requires it. Our President is entrusted in many things with arbitrary powers that in peaceful times do not properly devolve upon him.

Are these things done to break down our cause? Are they not meant to sustain our cause, to render more effective the means for gaining our rights and liberty—to build up, rather than pull down the glorious fabric reared upon the blood and sufferings of our brave people?

We so understand it. According to their national compact, no State has a right "to enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation, enter into any agreement or compact with another State, or with a foreign power." All these powers are left to the general Government who are delegated and authorized to make such treaties as will conduce to the general welfare and safety. And we are very sure, that from the President down, the task would be a happy one if they could make a treaty, alike honorable to themselves, our country and posterity, and stop this cruel war.

There are candidates in the field for gubernatorial honors. As we understand them, one is a "conservative after the straitest sect," and we should judge friendly to a Convention, W. W. Holden Esq. The other is not an ultra either way, but is a patriotic supporter of the cause of the South. Has had enough of "secession" and sees no use for the services of a Convention, our present energetic Executive. As we take it, this is no time for party strife or political struggles. We shall not attempt to discuss their fitness or character. Both are well known throughout the State.

One is a conservative "after the straitest sect," and if we understand aright, that means nothing more nor less than being favorable to a Convention that shall use all possible means to persuade the other States of the South, by a united action, either to urge upon the Confederate Government to *negotiate* with the enemy and offer terms of peace; or if the Confederate States Government will not take any action in the matter, to act in their sovereignty, independent of it, and offer to treat with Lincoln's Government and endeavor to secure an honorable peace.—The question is, how shall we secure an honorable peace? The States as mere States, have no right to negotiate with our enemies for peace or to make a treaty, and while we are conservative enough to desire an honorable peace, and know that we are fighting for "State Rights," we also know that our Government has tried to negotiate with the enemy, upon the establishment of the Provisional Government, and since, and have failed; and we believe also, that negotiation will not secure peace until our enemy cease fighting, and are willing to enter into an honorable treaty with us and grant our rights.—Then and then only, do we see any necessity for negotiation—when the enemy are ready to grant our rights and are willing to stop this war.

Mr. Holden is a conservative after the "straitest sect," we would not therefore take him to be a strong Southern man. If we have understood his course heretofore, he is more favorable to a reconstruction of the old Union, than to a patriotic support of the Confederate States Government. And what does "reconstruction mean?" It is simply to ask forgiveness for our past sins, to swallow Lincoln's filthy doses and become philanthropist, emancipationist, abolitionist, and subscribe to the doctrines preached throughout that unhappy land.

To be in fact a conquered province instead of a sovereign people; have our lands confiscated and our houses taken away and parceled out to negroes and white mercenaries—the "noblemen" of the north, as Wendell Phillips calls them, who with muskets in their hands shall carry out the exalted *philanthropy* of his school and exterminate the brave chivalrous race that have so gallantly defended their honors and firesides for three years. Do we want such protection as these philanthropists would give us, that we should desire to embrace the foul carcass of abolitionism? Do we desire to swallow the nauseous doctrines of Lincoln & Co.? As Hazael said "are we dogs, that we should do these things?"

People, our own fellow-citizens, who know any thing of the sufferings and trials that have been piled upon the unfortunate patriots who have been subjected to Yankee *protection*, would not talk of a Convention to reconstruct the old Union, neither would they think the people desirous of such a measure while there was the least shadow of hope of independence. And who is there among us who dare despair when we have such a strong tower of strength between us and our foe? Our gallant army is ready. We have our second Washington, and though we have lost our "Stonewall"—and here, let all who read drop a tear to the memory of the immortal hero who so nobly and skillfully defended the cause he loved so well, even unto death, we have still a host of others who present a brilliant array of military talent and skill that challenge the admiration of the world.

We regret that our fellow-citizens think so little of us as to think we sympathize with the movement of a Convention.

It is undeniable, that there are men of all classes among us. Circumstances have operated upon us. The influences of the times have affected many, otherwise worthy citizens. But the people are honest sons of the old State which gave us birth, and true patriots at heart to the cause of freedom. Surely. Can it be supposed that the citizens of Norfolk, New Orleans, Nashville, and other places in the hands of the enemy are Union traitors, disloyal, perfectly corrupt, and Yankees, because they are compelled, by the force of circumstances to take a detestable oath? Can you not, fellow-citizens, cast the broad mantle of your charity over these people, and believe them true to their country? Did Washington look with coldness, and shame and slander, on the people of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Charleston, and denounce them as "royalists" and traitors to cause of American Independence, because the circumstances of war placed them in the hands of the enemy? Why Charleston, that now defies the whole power of our enemy, was in British hands until the end of the struggle of '76. And are the people in and around it, denounced and thought to be "royalists" for that reason?

I think we can safely assert, that if the people within here, vote in August for a Governor, the vote will not be for a platform that has Convention on it, or for a man who advocates it. We have no use for the services of such a body, and we sincerely hope, that if there should ever be any need for it again, that its duties may be prescribed and its business measured by the length of time required to transact it.

NO CONVENTION.

Army News.

FROM BLACKWATER AND BELOW.—The Petersburg *Express* of Tuesday, contains the following account of the operations of the enemy on their recent visit to points below that city:

By the arrival of the train on the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad from Ivor last evening, we have reliable intelligence, that nearly or quite all of the enemy, who were marauding about the country between Suffolk and the Blackwater last Thursday, have returned to Fortress Monroe. Their objects seems to have been very definitely explained in one particular. They stole and carried off everything of value, and what they could not carry off was broken to pieces and otherwise destroyed. They entered Suffolk howling like demons, opened and searched private dwellings, destroyed furniture and stole clothing. The workshops, but few in number, were broken open, and all the tools destroyed.

At Smithfield, besides other depredations, they broke into the residence of Mr. Fred. Cowper, and stole the valuable library of his brother, Leopold C. P. Cowper, who long since deserted his country, and is now Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, under Pierpont's bogus government. From Smithfield, a gentleman who left the place since the Yankees departed, informs us, they carried off about one hundred negroes. He says also, that here they killed and devoured all the fowls they had stolen in their march from Chuckatuck and Cherry Grove, and their camping ground looked as though several feather beds had been emptied thereon.

The fight in Wren's field, referred to in our last, was continued for four hours, and the Yankees finally desisted from any further attempt to advance, and sought the protection of their gunboats. They numbered between 400 and 500 men, and consisted of the 23rd Massachusetts, under the command of Col. Ellsworth, of Salem, Mass. Capt. Causey, of the Scouts, Lieut. Woodley and Major Milligan, of the Signals Corps, all participated. Serg't Henniss, of Capt. Moise's 7th Confederate Cavalry, was wounded in the wrist, and Capt. Charles Spruill, of North Carolina, was taken prisoner. We killed some 5 or 6 of the enemy, and wounded some eighteen or twenty. Among the killed was an officer, supposed to belong to the *Minnesota*. He was endeavoring to cross Pagan Creek in a barge, for the purpose of communicating with Gen. Graham. Gen. G. complained very much to the citizens of Smithfield, about the "bushwhackers" who, he said, were infesting that section of country, and deeply lamented the death of the officer who was killed in the barge.

It is thought by gentlemen from the lower country who came last evening, that Burnside's expedition has not yet left Annapolis, and that these parties were sent out last week only as "feelers," to ascertain what Confederate force there was in that section. In the meantime, they stole negroes and other valuables, only to keep their hands in, and to satisfy their thieving propensities. These gentlemen think further, that if Burnside does come up the Southside of James River, he will land above the mouth of the Appomattox River; probably at Bermuda Hundreds. This, however, is mere conjecture, and must be received as such only.

It may be a matter of some interest to mention, that the force at Smithfield Thursday, consisted of the 24th Massachusetts, a Michigan and a Wisconsin regiment, and a New Jersey Battery; and that the 24th Massachusetts was doing duty not long since at Charleston, S. C.

In this connection we introduce the subjoined letter from a correspondent at Ivor, which give some particulars of the recent movements of the enemy below.

IVOR, VIRGINIA, April 18th, 1864.

Editors Express: You have doubtless heard many reports of the acts and doings of the enemy at Smithfield. I propose giving the facts, gathered from authentic sources.

Early on Thursday morning, Captain Causey was informed by one of his pickets, that between 300 and 500 Yankees were landing at Buswell's Bay. The Captain and Lieut. Woodly, soon mustered a small force of less than 30 men, and determined to make such resistance as their meagre numbers would allow.

A skirmish ensued near Mr. Wren's house. Our gallant little band was compelled to fall back, but still disputing the ground with the "enemy's advance," until they reached Wren's mill, which it seems the enemy intended to burn, but were prevented by the timely aid of Capt. Causey. It was the original plan of the Yankees to proceed to Smithfield, and at the same time destroy Wilson's mill.—They were, however, so closely followed, and so much annoyed by our men, as to necessitate a change of programme, and consequently found themselves retreating towards the Rock Wharf. I say "retreating," because it is a well established fact, that they came to a halt near Mr. John Sinclair's house. Our men advanced, fired on them, and killed one of their number, when immediately, the advance of the column marched rapidly towards the wharf, their *rear guard* following at a "*double quick*." Arriving at the wharf, there they remained until about 8 o'clock that night, when the gunboats and transports took them off to Old Point.

During the day, ten steamers—gunboats and transports—passed up the creek to Smithfield, and remained there (a part of them) until the following morning. A large number of troops were landed there.

They pulled down fences, carried off negroes and committed other depredations. The drugs and medicines belonging to Mr. Chalmers, were thrown from his drug store into the street. Mr. Samuel White, an aged citizen, lost all his negroes, with one exception. Early Friday morning, all of them, departed for Old Point and Newports News.

The houses of the citizens visited by the 23d Massachusetts Regiment, were not disturbed—in fact, the only robberies committed, were upon negroes. I noticed a kitchen, in which lived an old negro woman, completely sacked. Everything of any value was carried off, and spinning wheels, etc., broken to pieces. This may seem strange; but it is nevertheless true.

At Mr. Wrenn's, the negroes were badly treated, and one or two watches owned by the servants, were stolen. This Regiment boasted of not interfering with ladies, and a Lieut. told Mrs. Sinclair the ladies should not be disturbed. No negroes were carried off by the men of this command.

Too much praise cannot be given to Capt. Causey and his brave band. Some 10 or 12 of the enemy were killed and wounded, among the former, two officers, said to be a Major and Lieutenant. We had one man wounded, and one taken prisoner. We captured one man.

Information from a reliable source, just received, confirms the report of serious injury to the Minnesota by the torpedo boat. She is now at Newports News, and is said to have been taken off for repair. CORRESPONDENT.